

HUNDRED AND THIRD ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT OF THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY 1978



Published by
THE SECRETARY,
THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY, ADYAR,
MADRAS 600 020, INDIA

MAY 1979

Price Rs. 16

THIRTIETH AND THIRD ANNUAL
GENERAL REPORT OF THE
THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY
1978

May 1979

CONTENTS

PAGE

I. Annual Convention:

The Presidential Address	1
The Treasurer's Report (See Annexe for Annual Accounts for 1977-78)	15

II. Reports of the General Secretaries

The Theosophical Society in the United States of America	21
" " England	32
" " India	33
" " Australia	37
" " Sweden	46
" " New Zealand	46
" " Netherlands	50
" " France	51
" " Italy	51
" " Germany	52
" " Cuba	52
" " Hungary	Dissolved
" " Finland	54
" " Russia	Dissolved
" " Czechoslovakia	Dissolved
" " Southern Africa	55
" " Scotland	56
" " Switzerland	57
" " Belgium	57
" " Indonesia	58
" " Burma	60
" " Austria	63
" " Norway	63
" " Egypt	Dissolved
" " Denmark	64
" " Ireland	65
" " Mexico	No report
" " Canada	65
" " Argentina	67
" " Chile	68
" " Brazil	69
" " Bulgaria	Dissolved
" " Iceland	No report
" " Spain	71
" " Portugal	71

	PAGE
The Theosophical Society in Wales . . .	73
" " Poland . . .	Dissolved
" " Uruguay . . .	73
" " Puerto Rico . . .	74
" " Rumania . . .	Dissolved
" " Yugoslavia . . .	75
" " Sri Lanka . . .	76
" " Greece . . .	78
" " Central America . . .	78
" " Paraguay . . .	Dissolved
" " Philippines . . .	79
" " Colombia . . .	81
" " East and Central Africa . . .	83
" " Pakistan . . .	No report
" " Malaysia . . .	No report
" " Northern Ireland . . .	87
" " Viet Nam . . .	88
" " Venezuela . . .	No report
" " West Africa . . .	89
" " Bolivia . . .	92
" " Canadian Federation . . .	93
" " European Federation . . .	94
" " Inter-American Federation . . .	95
" " Lodges Attached Direct to Adyar:	
Peru . . .	96
Israel . . .	97
Singapore . . .	100
Hong Kong . . .	101
Japan . . .	102
Bangladesh . . .	103
Cameroon . . .	No report
" " World Federation of Young Theosophists . . .	No report
III. Headquarters, 1977-78 . . .	104
The Theosophical Publishing House . . .	105
The Adyar Library and Research Centre . . .	107
The Theosophical Islamic Association . . .	110
The Theosophical Order of Service . . .	112
International Committee on Science and Technology . . .	114
International Theosophical Youth Centre . . .	115
IV. Memorandum of Association . . .	117
Rules and Regulations (January 1979) . . .	118
Directory for 1979 . . .	133
Minutes of the General Council . . .	136
Minutes of the General Council: Summary . . .	144
Summary of Statistical Details, 1978 . . .	167
V. Annexe—Annual Accounts for 1977-78 . . .	196

PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS

TO THE 103RD INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION OF THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

Varanasi, December 26, 1978

WELCOME to all present. Meeting in Holy Kashi we find an atmosphere somewhat different from that of Adyar, but it is an atmosphere created by untold numbers of dedicated seekers, who have spent devoted and selfless lives in the search for Truth, the Supreme Experience and the universal nature and meaning of life. This is the first home chosen by Dr. Annie Besant, from where she began so many of her activities on behalf of India, that frequently culminated in glorious triumphs. These activities all worked, either consciously or unconsciously, to promote the Great Work which continues from age to age and brings nearer to man an understanding of himself and his relationship with all living things. Let us once again turn our thoughts to our Founders and invoke their blessing upon our Convention and our work. *(Rise)*

May those who are the embodiment of Love Immortal, bless with Their protection the Society established to do Their will on earth; may They ever strengthen it with Their power, inspire it with Their wisdom and energize it with Their activity. *(Be seated)*

Do we, as members, tend to look back too much? We frequently praise great men and derive courage and inspiration from their lives, but do we under-

stand that this is only half the picture? The other half is for us to convert that inspiration into action in our own lives and develop our own courage to put such actions into practice. Let us frankly admit then that had it not been for the sacrifice and unmitigated work of H. P. Blavatsky, Col. Olcott, Dr. Besant, C. W. Leadbeater, Dr. Arundale, Brother Jinārājādāsa and our late president, Brother N. Sri Ram, the Theosophical Society might not have managed to exist for over 100 years. Our debt to them is enormous, even unpayable, but if it can be paid at all, it is only in the work and the energy that we individually and collectively put into the field of today.

We do not live in the days of the past and certainly not in the days of a hundred years ago. We live now, in a world that changes every day and requires from us a constant review of ourselves and our methods.

The theme of the convention, Transformation, relates to this idea—transformation of ourselves and the consequent and inevitable transformation of our activities in the service of the world we are here to serve.

Theosophy, or that part of the ageless philosophy as could be released at that time, was given to the world, for the whole of humanity—'humanity in the mass'—and not to any chosen few except

in the sense that some are able to understand whilst many never make the effort to try. 'We have not broken the silence of the centuries for the sake of a few dreamers only,' says one of the Elder Brothers. Are we the happy dreamers, those who luxuriate in the exquisite waters of the truth that has been so generously offered, and remain indefinitely in the supreme enjoyment of learning to know and to experience for ourselves? What of the 'only'? Does this not imply that the wisdom teaching, so far as any of us are aware of it, is to be given to the wider world around us? It is not a complicated statement—it contains a direct instruction, namely that we have to be up and doing.

This month has seen the centenary of the Third President of the Theosophical Society, George Sydney Arundale, and many members around the world will be recalling his dynamic personality and his stimulating words. He enjoyed and was prone to alliteration; some will remember his call to us to be 'Free, Fearless and Friendly.'

One of these freedoms is freedom to live, be and act *now*, releasing ourselves from any bondage of the past, whilst acknowledging the past as a source of both inspiration and information. We have to live now and feel perfectly free to respond adequately to the challenges of the present day and age. There is a dearth of really fine leaders in today's world; great oratory is conspicuous by its absence, whilst conferences are 'in'—group work and discussion workshops where there are real means of communication and questions with time for adequate answers. Most of us are not too good at listening in order to really understand, not just superficially but in depth. We speak too easily and many times we have little or nothing

to say. And then, when we do at times have something to say, we find that no one else is really listening. Who has not suffered from this?

It seems unbelievable that, in a Society in which many members at least give lip-service to the idea of reincarnation, and which, moreover, has as its motto, 'There is no religion higher than Truth,' that one should find people seeking to back up a statement or a position, by taking a certain status, e.g., 'I'm older than you are,' or 'I've read the *Secret Doctrine* right through four times,' or even, 'I remember Mrs. Besant, and she said. . . .' The truth in a statement is inherent, it is not conferred by the eminence, qualifications, age, etc., of the speaker.

New efforts have to be made and they are not always received with understanding. Workers in lodges, federations and national sections have always found difficulties in launching new ideas or trying new methods. There is a conservative element often enough that is not very co-operative.

And yet we are in honour bound to find new methods in a changing world. Let every member feel free to find a useful way, but let him not force it on others, but seek the co-operation of his fellow members. Although it is the effort that counts more, we remain—contrary for the time being to what we have learned about looking for results—interested in the efficacy of our methods. Since we have been given a great work to do, this is fairly understandable. Do we touch the hitherto untouched majority?

As already suggested last year, the criterion of our effectiveness clearly must be whether we attract newcomers and whether our ability to arouse continuing interest succeeds in creating, not only a new member of the Theosophical Society, but a new student of Theosophy, a seeker

of Truth and a dedicated server of his fellow man. If we do not succeed in creating new students and servers, there must be something wrong with our methods and we need to think about changing them.

George Sydney Arundale said, 'We must take our Theosophy in its simplest and most convincing terms to all and sundry, to each *where he is*, whatever be his outlook. We must take Theosophy to him in garbs most likely to appeal to him.'

One small effort in this direction has been the issue of a small, new magazine called *Phoenix Rising*, a name which reminds us of the perpetual and repeated need for renewal and transformation. In its earliest beginnings at present, it may, in time, reach out to those as yet uncommitted millions who have felt the need to seek a deeper understanding of life, but are not sure in which direction to turn. The Theosophical Society is outwards-turned, toward the world. Other organizations may quite rightly be concerned with man's inner needs and growth, but the Society is concerned with making available to all men everywhere the rudiments, the bases, and the promise of that Ageless Wisdom which has within it the potentiality of answering all our questions. On the face of it, this statement seems too facile and it may be emphasized that it is always necessary to know how to ask the right questions. Mere curiosity, being personal, gets nowhere.

We have to try to meet people where they are—to answer the questions they ask, if we can—it is not at all impossible to him or her who has taken the trouble to study and understand the Wisdom as best he can. We need not answer every question in the book but just what is asked—so that we appear normal. If we try to give a lecture in answer to every question, we appear

fanatical and that does the Society no good at all. People today are very alert to hypocrisy and would notice all too quickly if we do not practise what we preach.

Dear friends and fellow members, I am not saying all this in any spirit of disparagement or lack of understanding and appreciation of the fine work being done by many in many lands. It is simply to try and emphasize the continuing need to keep up the pace of our approaches; to be unafraid of new methods which match the new conditions in which we live; to be awake to what is going on around us, because we are often too little aware.

It seems to me that a member of the Theosophical Society should be world-conscious, since he has espoused the cause of universality. We should develop a world sense and, seeing the greater picture, be better able to work intelligently in the smaller sphere of our own local activity.

World citizens have added responsibilities. When youngsters go on the rampage and smash shop windows, who or what are we to blame? Education, no doubt, first and foremost, for we have to acknowledge that under a system where there are—sometimes by government decree—forty or even fifty children in a class, there *can* be no education. There can only be instruction, and the forcing of all uniqueness and variety into one common mould. Instead of individuals we create crowds; instead of man in the truest sense, we have something less than man, for anyone—even a cow—can break shop windows.

We can blame the home, the population explosion, the economic system—or the scarcity of jobs for qualified students to which it gives rise—and much else no doubt. And even with the wide appeal through the mass media,

it is difficult to make headway with the universal nature of life and responsibility of each for all.

Seekers abound everywhere today. New types of children are being born. Are we witnessing the early beginnings of the new sub-race, of which Theosophists have spoken and written for many years? If it be true, we might develop another attitude towards them, when now we too often criticize them or complain about them. Are we also witnessing one of those minor judgement days which were expected to occur in the fifth period in terms of chains and rounds, etc., and so in the fifth sub-race of the fifth root race? If these two 'cosmic' phenomena are active at the same time, it may help us to understand both the extraordinary interest in Yoga on the one hand, and the violence and decadence on the other.

To help effectively, the Society must make even greater efforts to maintain the highest levels of conduct and occult purity. To do this we first have to know what we are talking about. Are we expounding the Ageless Wisdom in its basic purity, or as seen through the wishful thinking of our personal natures? It is not the knowledge of that Wisdom in our minds that is the chief aim—important though that may be—but the acceptance of it as a guide for our living. But to accept, one has first to make the effort of seeking and studying. There is no other way.

Surely there is no short cut, other than that of working harder and therefore making more headway. Whether we live in a yesterday of relative peace or in a today of clamour and bustle with competition and apparent lack of time, the exigencies are the same. The individual must do the work both on and in himself, or he will never escape from the life-cycle he has created for himself.

Change may help but only transformation will bring lasting results.

Let us never forget to try and understand what it is that the Elder Brothers want us to do. What, in the mind and heart of each of us, do we think is the Cause of which H. P. B. speaks, and how do we define it? The launching of the Theosophical Society was to serve the Cause. The offering of the Ageless Wisdom once again to mankind was to serve the Cause; the sacrifices made by H. P. B., Col. Olcott and others were in the service of the Cause. How do we define it?

The forwarding of a Cosmic Plan?

The uplifting of all life to God?

The instilling of the Wisdom in every heart that all seeds of happiness may flower?

The dispelling of the illusion of separateness?

Each may make his own list and they will have much in common. Are we, in our Society, our sections, our lodges, and in ourselves, really loyal to the Cause, or have we allowed the means to obscure the end, and become more important?

When we look at the lives of the greatest people who ever lived, they all gave their lives for the cause they served. They gave their all without reserve. Can you or I be a true servant of the Cause until we have, each in his own unique nature, given our lives completely to serve the great work?

Obviously we cannot all do it now, but if we really determine through that Inner Ruler that this is to be our way, we can prepare for it now. Instead of talking about the past, we should more consciously consider the Karma of the future. What we have to live with we cannot undo, but what we are going to have to live with in the future we can greatly influence.

We live in a changing world and have to stress the Be-ness that lies behind it all. The materialism of today does not take too easily to ideas of this nature and yet the changes taking place are huge and widespread. It behoves us to be busy with our sowing so that tomorrow's world may have a harvest to garner; so that the flowers which will blossom in the centuries to come will spread so beautiful a fragrance that the men and women of that day will feel impelled to seek the source of beauty for themselves.

The world is full of fear and insecurity and the knowledge of the Ageless Wisdom alone can lead each one of us to trust himself to life. We may fail in our efforts but the work of the Great Elder Brothers can never fail. Trust in Their Wisdom, trust in the Law, trust in the God within each of us and all must always be well.

* * *

Deaths.—During the year, a number of members have passed on and among these we must especially mention Dr. I. K. Taimni who was well-known to members throughout the world through his writings. His books have proved to be very popular and are high on the list of those being translated into other languages. He meant much to most of us here in one way or another and will be much missed as a teacher and a friend.

Mr. Edwin Lord who passed away in the U.S.A. had been International Treasurer at Adyar for several years and was later Treasurer of the American Section.

Other internationally-known members who died during the year were Miss Leonora Cohen of England, at the age of 105, well known for her social work and for her earlier involvement in the women's suffrage movements; Miss Mary Graham of New Zealand who had

contributed many articles of great interest to *The Theosophist*; Mr. Michael Maxwell, Managing Director of T.P.H. England; Mr. Herbert Peron of Ojai Valley, California, another well-known contributor to the magazine; and Dr. Shila Ransom, daughter of the late Sidney and Josephine Ransom.

International Tours.—Miss Joy Mills, the Vice-President, has toured extensively during the year. She visited East and West Africa, several countries in South America, and the U.S.A. where, among other things, she conducted a course at the Krotana Institute in California. In Europe she was Guest Speaker at many of the Summer Schools and presided over the European Congress at Durham. She is at present in New Zealand as guest at the National Convention, before returning to Adyar.

Mrs. Radha Burnier visited a number of centres in the U.S.A., including the Krotana Institute, and also Australia and New Zealand on a lecture tour.

Mrs. Rukmini Devi Arundale visited Holland and England during the year, participating in several gatherings in these countries.

The International Secretary, Dr. Jean Raymond, attended the Durham Congress as meetings of the General Council were held at that time. She also attended the U.S.A. and Canadian Conventions and visited Israel, Greece and Egypt.

As President I toured Australia and New Zealand and visited the lodge in Singapore. I also presided over the Indo-Pacific Conference in Indonesia in August, at which the Indo-Pacific Federation was founded.

Staff Changes at Adyar.—Mrs. Alwyn Miechel returned to Australia in April after doing excellent work in the Archives for several years, and Miss Carin Citroen of Australia has been put in charge of the department.

In December 1977, Mr. Robin Keefe of England was appointed Information and Public Relations Officer. Prof. H. E. Hakim, who held this position for some years, has remained at Adyar and is working to develop the Theosophical Islamic Association, between tours for the Indian Section.

In January, Mr. John Clarke from England was appointed Assistant Editor of *The Theosophist*, replacing Miss Prema Dasara who returned to the United States.

Mrs. Erika Morris, Superintendent of Leadbeater Chambers, left for Australia in September and Mr. Neil Stewart, also from Australia, has been appointed as Superintendent.

In May, Mr. Gopalakrishnan assumed the position of Superintendent of the Garden Department, replacing Mr. R. Ramanathan.

Early in 1978, Miss C. Sudha was appointed as Superintendent of the Bhojanasala, replacing Mrs. Lakshmi Rao.

Mr. N. Janakiram has been appointed as Assistant Treasurer.

ANNUAL REPORTS

Adyar Library and Research Centre.—

The Library continues the project of publications of rare manuscripts with aid from the Ministry of Education and Social Welfare, Delhi. A variety of publications were released during the year, including the regular Adyar Library Bulletin containing contributions by many scholars. Research scholars and other visitors continue to make use of the unique opportunities offered by the contents of the library. 2,187 books were added, mostly donated, and many were preserved and repaired in the continuing effort to keep them in good condition.

Theosophical Publishing House.—The main effort this year has centred on the

production of the definitive edition of *The Secret Doctrine* edited by Mr. Boris de Zirkoff. The first volume is completed, more than half the pages of the second volume have been printed, so it is hoped to release the three volumes (the Index is the third volume) by the middle of 1979.

There were five new publications during the year and twenty reprints, including three of Dr. Arundale's books, to celebrate the centenary of his birth. Together with the books imported from T.P.H., Wheaton and London, and Quest Books, sales passed the Rs. 600,000 mark for the first time.

The Theosophist, continuing in its new format, had a twenty percent circulation increase.

Seven publishing houses were represented at the International Theosophical Publishing Conference held at Durham in August.

Theosophy Science.—There are now 170 members listed as scientifically qualified. In collaboration with the Committee on Science and Technology in Developing Countries (COSTED), a seminar on *The Impact of Science in Human Values* will be held from 10th to 12th January, 1979. The most noteworthy happening during the year was the publication, in both *Theosophy-Science* and *The Theosophist* of an article by Dr. S. Phillips on the relationship of Quarks to Occult Chemistry Atoms. This confirms the discoveries of Dr. Annie Besant and C. W. Leadbeater in their book *Occult Chemistry*.

Various sections continue their activities in theosophy science, and some produce bulletins to keep members up to date on what they are doing.

Archives.—There have been many interesting and interested visitors during the year, both members and non-members. A shortage of personnel has caused a considerable drop in micro-filming, but the preservation of old documents through

the lamination process and the cleaning of documents and their chemical treatment against insect pests continues.

Theosophical Order of Service.—A meeting was arranged at the European Congress at Durham, and was addressed by Miss Joy Mills, Dr. Tudor Edmunds and Miss Greta Eedle. It is encouraging to find so much activity both through the organizations and by individuals acting independently. Young Tibetans and other displaced persons were helped, and contributions made to animal welfare and vegetarian organizations. There are healing groups in several places, and work has been done for cancer and leprosy sufferers, for the blind, for crippled and mentally handicapped children and for prisoners, as well as helping towards flood relief in India.

International Theosophical Youth Centre.—Founded only three years ago, the I. T. Y. C. continues to show increased activity. Contact has been established on a world-wide basis, through letters, visits, and particularly through the magazine *Phoenix Rising*, which has been enthusiastically received. The main work is on the magazine at the moment, but camps or workshops are arranged in Adyar around convention time, and many other activities are organized at Adyar during the year.

World Theosophical Youth Federation.—This is the new name for the World Federation of Young Theosophists, an organization which almost became dormant over the past few years, except in South America. Now, with the enthusiasm of new officers, its activities and membership are increasing. The President, Arnaldo Sisson Filho of Brazil, has travelled extensively in both Americas and Europe and is now at Adyar. The Inter-American and European Theosophical Youth Federations are busy planning activities, and a meeting of the W.T.Y.F. executive will

take place during the Annual Convention of the T.S. at Varanasi.

The Theosophical Islamic Association.—Now in existence for fifty-six years, this association, with headquarters in Adyar, continues to encourage the study of Islam and Sufism in the light of Theosophy. During the year Prof. H. E. Hakim, who is also a National Lecturer of the Indian Section of the T. S., gave talks in various places, and was instrumental in bringing in new members of the association and in the formation of new branches. In addition to Indian branches there is interest in Pakistan, Burma and Egypt.

SECTION REPORTS

America.—Although there were 725 new members, total membership increased by only fifty-four, to 4,672. The membership records are now completely computerized, saving a great deal of time. Mr. Bing Escudero was appointed National Lecturer, his work with branches and centres has greatly increased interest in Theosophy in many places.

The department of education continues its efforts to reach people, through cassettes, letters to new members, study courses and radio and TV series. The Theosophical Publishing House released fourteen new Quest Books and six reprints. The advertising campaign in various media continues to draw attention to these books. In addition to the thirteen salesmen who service bookstores generally, there are also Quest Bookshops to serve the public directly. Three new ones were opened in Boston, San Antonio and Oakland. The continuing support of the Kern Foundation, in this and other activities, provides means by which theosophical ideas can be spread with greater effect throughout the United States.

England.—There was a slight overall reduction in membership, which now stands at 2,077. At the Festival of Mind and Body an attractive stand, with T.P.H. London, brought visitors and enquiries. Miss Joy Mills was the Guest of Honour at the annual convention in May.

T.P.H. London continues to do well, with six new books published and five in the press, although a severe loss was suffered in the death of the General Manager, Mr. Michael Maxwell, after a long illness.

A full programme of activities was maintained during the year, thanks to the well-organized and capable staff at London headquarters.

India.—Dr. I. K. Taimni, well known to members and to many outside of the Society, particularly through his many books, passed away during this year. Both his dedication and his example in life will be considerably missed.

Membership, at 9,657, is up seventy-three. On the 17th February, 1978, the International Vice-President, Miss Joy Mills, inaugurated the Assam Federation, whose formation was approved by the Indian Section Council in December 1977.

Efforts continue in various parts of the country to distribute theosophical literature and journals in local languages, even though these are many and varied. There is some concern over the lack of funds for maintenance of the various buildings, and also that the use of these buildings, for purposes apart from theosophical, does not cause confusion in the public mind as to the Society's aims and work.

As usual, the various federations and lodges continue their work through study groups, training and study camps, with special efforts to interest young people. Various officers and other members of the Society have visited and given talks

and courses in many places during the year. The publication of books in Indian languages continues, with many translations and new works.

Prof. C. S. Raghavan was appointed Joint General Secretary of the Indian Section, and Dr. C. V. Agarwal is now editing the section journal revised and renamed *The Indian Theosophist*.

The Theosophical Order of Service has been particularly involved in efforts to mitigate the effects of the considerable flooding in India this year.

Australia.—Membership is 1,300, up twenty-seven. The most momentous event was the inauguration of the Indo-Pacific Federation (see report under that heading).

Some well-known Theosophists left Australia during the year and will be missed very much: the National Lecturer for many years, Mr. Will Ross, and Mr. & Mrs. James Perkins, who returned to the United States after living here since 1971.

Stage one of the Mt. Helena Project of Perth Lodge was completed, giving the Australian section its first theosophical camp. Many people contributed to this achievement, and it should prove of great use for workshops and seminars of various kinds. There has been much increased activity at the lodge level, a good sign, as this is where the work of the Society in Australia is centred.

Although handicapped by lack of staff and money, the various forms of publicity have attracted many enquiries and new members. Particularly effective are the bookshops, the Quest Book Agency, and the broadcast interviews with many national and international figures, both theosophical and other. A fact-finding sub-committee was formed to look frankly at the problems confronting the lodges.

Sweden.—There are currently 310 members, eight fewer than last year.

Local groups or lodges exist in five towns where regular meetings are held. There are public lectures and study circles at the national headquarters in Stockholm, and the bookshop there is doing an increasing business. Miss Joy Mills was present at the Summer School in July, and some members attended study groups and conventions held in other countries.

New Zealand.—There was a net gain of sixty-one members, to 1,528. There were many lectures given during the year, by Mrs. Mavis Hardy, the National Lecturer, who visited every lodge twice, and by various other members. Mr. John Coats toured extensively, and Mrs. Radha Burnier gave lectures and talks during her visit. Of particular interest have been the 'spotlight' lectures given in towns where there is currently little or no T.S. activity. These lectures have aroused interest and resulted in the formation of worthwhile groups in several instances. Newspaper and magazine display advertising of the section magazine has resulted in many enquiries, some new subscriptions and new members.

Among those who passed away during the year was Miss Mary Graham, a long standing member, also well-known at Adyar.

The Netherlands.—There was a change in the General Secretary, from Mr. Marijn Brandt to Mr. Arend Heybroek. An interesting study weekend, attended by sixty to seventy persons, was held in June, where talks were given by several members. The subject was, 'What defines our image of men?' The central library is closed for reconstruction but the bookshop is very active, selling books in both English and Dutch. Membership dropped from 962 to 950.

France.—There was a slight membership increase, from 1,467 to 1,475. Activities were concentrated mainly in Paris,

with regular lectures and a weekly course, except in summer. Mr. Geoffrey Farthing was the Guest of Honour at the annual convention in April.

Italy.—Membership increased from 650 to 713. At the annual convention at Riccione Marina in May, the Guest speaker was Mrs. Hermine Sabetay. A remarkable event was the trip of thirty-four members to Adyar. At the end of the year two more groups are going there for longer stays.

Germany.—A new general secretary was elected, Mrs. Gerda Höfer, replacing Mr. Siegfried Kuska. Considerable activity took place, mostly in the form of lectures and study weekends, with many members and visitors participating. Miss Joy Mills gave a training course in June for fifteen members.

Cuba.—There are 556 members as against 530 last year. All the lodges are very active, holding regular meetings and following a systematic plan concerning the subjects adopted. Various members give talks and lectures and the publication of translations of philosophical works continues.

Finland.—The customary activities, public lectures, lodge meetings, the magazine, have continued during the year. Miss Joy Mills gave talks at the summer school at Kreivila and at Helsinki. The number of members increased by thirteen to 502.

Southern Africa.—Although there has been a decrease in membership, the lodges are active, and members have a considerable variety of interests—martial arts, I Ching, the art of stillness, and many active healing groups. The convention in Durban was helped to success by the very interesting discussions.

Switzerland.—Mr. Ricco Streiff has taken over as General Secretary from Mr. Georges Tripet. Public lectures are given regularly in Geneva and Basle, and

an 'open forum' has been created in Geneva for non-members who wish to talk without an obligation for membership.

Belgium.—The long-time General Secretary of this section, Mrs. Berthe Nyssens, retired this year, and was replaced by Mr. Charles Lallemand. Mr. John Coats visited for two days and several members attended the Italian summer school.

Indonesia.—The annual convention was omitted this year as it had to be cancelled after the Indonesian general election was called for the same dates, and there was not enough time to organize it again in addition to the Pacific Conference.

The Pacific Conference resulted in the formation of the Indo-Pacific Theosophical Federation (see report under that heading).

Burma.—Membership is 127, an increase of eight. There was a wide range of activities, particularly in Olcott Lodge, the principal one in this section. There were study classes, group meditations, group discussions, Saturday public lectures and particularly well-attended spoken-English language classes. The convention was held in Rangoon in December and was well-attended by members, their families and well-wishers.

Austria.—Membership altered slightly, dropping by five to 239. Some experiments in working in new ways are being undertaken, but it is too early to report on their progress. Miss Joy Mills gave an inspiring four-day seminar on *Light on the Path* and a public lecture in Vienna. The usual summer school took place at Pichl. A number of books in German were published during the year.

Norway.—Present membership is 147. The section participated in a public meeting, together with several other related societies, where the General Secretary gave a summary of Theosophy and

answered questions. A new study and meditation group was started in Oslo, and new interest allowed the supplying of literature to the State Prison near Oslo.

Denmark.—This has been a year of expansion and hard work, mostly centred around headquarters and the lodges in Copenhagen. There are two lectures a week, by members and invited guests. A highlight was the visit of Miss Ianthé Hoskins, who conducted a study course on *The Secret Doctrine*.

Ireland.—Talks and lectures continue to be given on a regular basis, frequently a series on a particular subject. These may be given by members or non-members, with the public always welcome.

Canada.—The size of the country plus limited resources prevent an annual convention, but the General Secretary took advantage of business trips to visit many lodges plus contacting the American and English sections. The main activity is producing *The Canadian Theosophist* whose circulation has been helped by limited advertising.

Argentina.—There was continued activity in the lodges, including one in Paraguay which is attached to this section. The summer school in April was very successful, attended by members from several South American countries. Miss Joy Mills, the guest speaker, delivered a series of lectures. The lodge premises in Buenos Aires were remodelled, adding rooms for a library and bookshop and enlarging the room for public activities.

Chile.—There were workshops and lectures held regularly in many centres, with interest from the public being shown. A scholarship was granted to the T.S. for one member to attend the courses on Natural Living given at a natural health farm of great repute. This was much appreciated and has already resulted in additional exposure of theosophical ideas to the public.

Brazil.—Although membership decreased by thirty to 972, there were many young people among the new members, a good sign for continuation of the Society. The publishing of books continues, and also the regular quarterly magazine. The Inter-American Theosophical Convention took place in São Paulo and the visit of Miss Joy Mills was enjoyed very much.

Spain.—The Theosophical Society in Spain has increasing private and public activities. There was a combined meeting with the Portuguese Section in Lisbon in June, for three days. A public lecture during Palma de Mallorca Week attracted much interest and resulted in increased attendance in Palma. A monthly journal will soon be issued.

Portugal.—Usual activities continued, including celebration of important days, and regular lectures. Members from several other sections visited and gave lectures and Miss Joy Mills led a seminar on meditation which had a large attendance. Some members were able to attend the International Week at Huizen and some went to the European Congress in Durham.

Wales.—There was a considerable drop in membership, largely due to the demise of the Anglesey Lodge, composed mostly of young people who appear to have taken what they wished from Theosophy and moved on to the next thing in their lives. The rest of the groups continue their work, with regular lectures and study groups.

Uruguay.—With thirty-one new members and seven re-admissions, membership is now 171. The library was moved to headquarters in July and quickly re-organized. Weekly meetings, mostly on theosophical classics, continued to be held, and groups of members offered weekly radio programmes on Theosophy. The Young Theosophists are planning an

international camp for three days in December, at a seaside resort 100 km. from Montevideo.

Yugoslavia.—There has been an increase of twelve in membership, to 113. The Theosophical Society in Yugoslavia has now been registered as a citizen's association, and its activity approved in the country. Members attended both the summer school in Pichl, Austria, and the conference at Durham. Summer school took place in Gozd Martuljek in July, and premises have been obtained in Ljubljana where future conventions can be held.

Sri Lanka.—Curfews and bans on meetings have restricted some activities. G. J. Samarasinghe is now National Treasurer and Theja Gunawardhana is National Secretary. Seetha Neelakantan gave several interesting lectures during her visit. Olcott Day was celebrated jointly by the American Embassy, the National Theosophical Society and the Buddhist T.S.

Greece.—This section is celebrating its fiftieth anniversary, now having 256 members. Mr. John Coats and Dr. Jean Raymond both visited the section during the year. The work in the lodges continues briskly, and the magazine *Illis*, in its twenty-third year, has a circulation of 3,700 copies.

Central America.—This section comprises six countries and currently has 189 active members. Miss Joy Mills visited some lodges in April. Activities continue, sometimes under difficulties due to political disturbances.

The Philippines.—The major event was the destruction of the headquarters at Manila by fire on 2nd September. Although this has caused major problems, it has also brought members closer together. Plans to hold the next conference of the Indo-Pacific Federation in 1980 or 1981 in Manila continue, as the Philippine

members accept the greater challenge after the fire.

East and Central Africa.—The composition of this section, plus differences of opinion between some of the participating countries cause many difficulties. Nevertheless the work continued, with a visit by Miss Joy Mills a highlight, particularly as she was interviewed on both radio and television. Reuben Thuku and his wife, Sarah, have been attending the International Centre of Studies and Research at Adyar.

Northern Ireland.—Despite a modest membership of thirty-nine, Theosophy in Ulster is very much alive. Members' meetings continue regularly with a variety of talks, usually recorded, and the thirtieth annual convention was held in May.

Viet-Nam.—This section is required to operate under a reduced scope and extent, because of the present situation in the country. Weekly meetings are held comprising a public lecture, a question period and a study class.

West Africa.—Efforts are being made to introduce closer communication with the lodges, through organizational changes, and plans for personal visits. The third annual New Year School was held in January, where basic questions on the meaning of membership in the T.S., the role of a lodge and the nature of the Society itself were considered. Membership is 233.

Bolivia.—Three new lodges were started during the year. In October, a meeting was convened in Cochabamba, to which all members in Bolivia were invited. Some members attended the summer school held by the Argentine section.

FEDERATIONS

European Federation.—The most important event was the 28th European

Congress in Durham, in August, attended by nearly 300 members. Many came from outside the Federation and from other continents, so that meetings of the General Council were also held. One of these was open to all delegates to attend as observers, for the first time, and was very successful. In March the meeting of the executive was combined with a study weekend, with several speakers from different sections.

Indo-Pacific Federation.—This is a new Federation inaugurated by Mr. Coats during the Pacific Conference at Yogyakarta, Central Java, in August. Participating are national sections, presidential agencies and federations of theosophical lodges in the Indo-Pacific region, from Fiji in the East, Australia and New Zealand in the South, to Pakistan and Sri Lanka in the West.

The officers for the first three-year term are:

President: Mrs. Elaine Murdoch;
Vice-President: Mr. S. Narayanan;
Secretary: Mrs. Gladys MacCartie;
Treasurer: Dr. Hugh Murdoch.

The next meeting is planned for Manila in 1980 or 1981.

LODGES ATTACHED DIRECT TO ADYAR

Peru.—These lodges continue in their regular meetings, with lectures and study sessions on a variety of theosophical literature, attended by up to seventy people.

Israel.—Although attached to headquarters, the lodges in Israel are co-operating with each other, often having combined meetings, where the variety of languages permit this. The visit of Dr. Jean Raymond was much enjoyed.

Nippon Lodge, Japan.—In addition to the regular meetings, about 150 people attended the conference in Tokyo in May,

and some went to the Pacific Conference in Indonesia. Considerable work is being done in translating various books into Japanese.

Comilla Lodge, Bangladesh.—The library is gradually being built up again, thanks to donations of books. Meetings are held weekly, and also on special anniversaries. Subjects discussed are

quite varied and meetings are well attended.

Fako Lodge, Cameroon.—This is a small lodge, with fourteen members, hampered by members living far apart and by a lack of funds to publicize the Theosophical Society. Nevertheless there is continuing optimism among the members.

THE TREASURER'S REPORT

INTRODUCTORY: There has been a departure in the accounting procedure in the year under report from previous years in that receipts of "Fees and Dues", amounting to Rs. 135,531, have been shown as income in the Income and Expenditure account instead of being taken direct to the General Fund in the Balance Sheet. Even so, the net deficit for the year ended 31st March 1978 was Rs. 287,890 as against Rs. 286,177 of the previous year.

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT:

A. INCOME:

There was a decrease in interest earnings amounting to Rs. 20,619. Recoveries against quarters maintenance were more by Rs. 18,266.

Overhead charges recovered from the revenue-yielding Departments, amounting to Rs. 16,960, have been shown separately as an income, instead of being credited to "International Offices" as in previous years.

B. EXPENDITURE:

I. DEPARTMENTAL RESULTS:

1. **Adyar Library:** In spite of a Government Grant of Rs. 40,889 the Publications Account showed an excess of expenditure over income amounting to Rs. 26,599 against the previous year's figure of Rs. 1,853. This was mainly due to the writing down of the value of old publications to the extent of Rs. 67,488.

Donations received were less by Rs. 18,907 as compared with the previous year, during which donations of lamination and microfilming materials, valued at Rs. 16,263, had been received.

Expenses include a Gratuity allocation of Rs. 13,440. Depreciation charged to the Library was less by Rs. 17,045 as the Library building has been transferred to the General Balance Sheet and the depreciation on it included in the consolidated Income and Expenditure account.

2. **Bhojanasala:** Against a deficit of Rs. 16,537 on Boarding, there was a

surplus of Rs. 21,344 on Lodging. Allowing for a Gratuity allocation of Rs. 3,318 and small differences in other items of expenditure, the net deficit was Rs. 887 as against the previous year's surplus of Rs. 372.

3. **Garden Department:** The net receipts under Cultivation Account amounted to Rs. 156,384, as against previous year's Rs. 106,281, almost exclusively due to an increase in sale of coconuts amounting to Rs. 50,921. Expenses on Ornamental Account were less by Rs. 5,022. The net deficit was Rs. 38,044 as compared with the previous year's Rs. 44,629.

3-A. **Laundry:** Though the Departmental working of the Laundry was closed as from 31st March 1977, there were receipts and payments in connection with the closing of the Laundry during April 1977, resulting in a net expenditure of Rs. 7,091.

4. **Leadbeater Chambers:** The deficit on Boarding was less during the year by Rs. 1,327 and the surplus on Lodging

was more by Rs. 18,655, of which Rs. 11,367 represented increase in dues for lodging and Rs. 4,062 for service charges. Income on "Amenities" also showed an increase of Rs. 2,079. The net result was that there was a surplus of income over expenditure amounting to Rs. 1,700 against the previous year's net deficit of Rs. 5,392.

5. Maintenance Department: The whole basis of the accounts of this Department has been revised by charging all repairs and maintenance of the Estate to this Department instead of to the Repairs and Renewal account under the head "Establishments and other Expenses". Water and Electricity charges have also been debited to this Department. It is therefore not practicable to compare the figures for the year under report with previous year's figures. The deficit of this Department was Rs. 172,482 as compared with the previous year's Rs. 66,223, to which is to be added Rs. 84,834 for "Repairs and Renewals" and "Electricity and Water." The real increase in the deficit of this Department was thus Rs. 21,425. It may, however, be pointed out that the net deficit contemplated in the Budget for the year was only Rs. 117,800. It was not possible to project a realistic Budget for the Department for the year on the basis of the revised accounting procedure. This will be remedied in the Budget for 1978-79.

6. The Theosophical Publishing House: Thanks to donations received amounting to Rs. 26,068, and an advertisement revenue of Rs. 8,449, against none received in the previous year, the deficit on "The Theosophist" was only Rs. 13,108 against the previous year's Rs. 17,252.

Sales of the Publishing House registered an increase of Rs. 30,723 and "Cash Assistance" from Government for exports

was more by Rs. 8,334. Interest on investments was also more by Rs. 4,056. Royalty receipts were less by Rs. 6,764. Expenditure on advertisements was more by Rs. 2,970, on Establishment by Rs. 11,071, and on Royalty on Sales by Rs. 4,233. As usual, the amount of Rs. 12,000 paid annually by the T.P.H. to the President's Management Expenses account was utilized towards car maintenance, including the driver's salary. The net result was that the surplus of Income over Expenditure was Rs. 78,636 against the previous year's Rs. 69,471.

7. Vasanta Press: Though the gross income in the Production Account was in excess of the previous year's by Rs. 13,421, the corresponding increase in the net surplus of income over expenditure was only Rs. 1,197. This was due to increased expenditure on Salaries and Wages, including Provident Fund, Retirement Allowance and other benefits to the employees, stipends to apprentices, etc. Electricity charges also showed an increase of Rs. 1,494.

GENERAL: Expenses for the Annual Convention were less by Rs. 4,077 as compared with the previous year. There was a saving of Rs. 1,657 on Estate Management but increased expenditure in the following Departments as shown against each:

Department	Increase	
	Amount	Percentage
	Rs.	
Headquarters	5,893	48%
Information	4,377	75%
International Offices	38,815	94%
Movable Properties	6,261	20%
Museum & Archives	6,252	40%
Sanitary	2,316	11%
Security	6,414	6%

Most of the increase was due to increase in Salaries, Wages and Allowances, including Provident Fund and other benefits.

Of the increase of Rs. 38,815 in respect of International Offices, Rs. 28,798 represents overhead charges formerly credited to this account, but now shown as a separate income in the general accounts, as already stated.

Postage and Telegrams were more by Rs. 2,361, but Printing and Stationery showed a saving of Rs. 2,083.

Taxes were more by Rs. 6,082 as the new buildings in Sri Ram Colony were added to those assessed for tax.

BALANCE SHEET:

1. A.B.C. Fund:

The balance as on 31-3-78 was Rs. 2,206,403 as against the previous year's Rs. 2,185,925, the difference representing donations received to the corpus of the Fund.

2. T.P.H. Funds and Reserves:

T.P.H. Investments were less at the end of the year, as compared with the previous year, by Rs. 110,000 mainly because of heavy purchases of paper and printing bills. However, the closing stock showed an increase of Rs. 130,211.

3. Investments:

Investments at cost, as on 31-3-78, were Rs. 3,807,750 against the previous year's

Rs. 3,999,840—a decrease of Rs. 192,090—which means a reduction of about Rs. 19,000 per annum in the income by way of interest. With very substantial increase in expenditure, particularly on Salaries, Wages and Allowances, it is essential to build up the investments to make the working of the Society financially viable.

4. General Fund:

A sum of Rs. 17,506, being further compensation received from the State Government for lands acquired by them in 1970, was added to this Fund; so also, the value of the Adyar Library Buildings Rs. 602,479, transferred from the Library to the General Accounts. A sum of Rs. 98,417 was paid from the Fund during the year towards arrears of Provident Fund for the period 1-12-74 to 31-1-77. Transfers included in this Fund, amounting to Rs. 43,225, represent adjustments relating mainly to Centenary stock items. The General Fund stood at Rs. 5,246,001 as against the previous year's Rs. 4,700,167.

Adyar
18th October 1978

C.R.N. SWAMY,
Hony. Treasurer.

REPORTS OF THE GENERAL SECRETARIES
OF NATIONAL SOCIETIES, FEDERATION
SECRETARIES, PRESIDENTIAL
AGENTS, ETC.

These reports in some instances have been translated
into English, edited or condensed in the office of the
International Secretary.

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Last August our annual business Convention was held at Olcott and the Summer School at Lake Geneva. Miss Joy Mills, our International Vice-President, was the guest of honor and was most helpful during the Convention in the discussion of the changes in our National By-Laws. Miss Mills also gave the Sunday public lecture to a most appreciative audience.

The attendance of Convention at Olcott was rather small but we had greater participation at the Summer School sessions in Lake Geneva, Wisconsin. Miss Mills as well as Mrs. Rukmini Arundale were our special guests and contributed to the special theme of "The Theosophical Universe: Exploring the World of Order and Meaning".

Bing Escudero and Stephan A. Hoeller also contributed a great deal to the success of the sessions. These events have been described in our September 1977 issue in great detail. Lake Geneva is a beautiful place and was enjoyed by most of our members.

Membership Department.—Since June of last year our Membership Department has greatly stabilized. Mr. Harry Bromley became the National Secretary and has been most helpful in dealing with the vast amount of correspondence received by this department. His letters have been invaluablely kind and helpful.

The membership records were fully computerized during this year. This fiscal year we have an active membership of 4,672. 725 new members joined the Society and 48 members passed on. A total of 32 members joined the Endowment Fund this year.

The Society presently has 89 branches and 72 study centres.

Olcott Library and Research Centre.—

The number of members of the Society who use the library has substantially increased, which is due in part to the programmes presented at Olcott and in part to informational literature in new members' packets. There are 663 members of the library, 500 of whom are also members of the Society. A total of 2,250 books were loaned to walk-in borrowers and 1,269 through the mail, giving a sum of 3,519 books loaned during this fiscal year.

A considerable amount of time has been invested in compiling and revising reading lists. In addition to the regular lists there are lists also available on special subjects and the works of specific authors. All lists are for sale individually or in sets.

In the ongoing effort to make the library's services more widely known, a large informational mailing was done in November. A number of individuals joined the library as a result, but the greater response came from other libraries and institutions. Some have joined the library in our new Institutional Membership Programme, while these and many more have purchased reading lists. Several local groups have visited the library to inquire about Theosophy and library services. In April and May the library presented five book-review/tea's which were well attended and resulted in visitors joining the library. The library offers scholarships to members who wish to do research and will share the fruits of their study in their local area.

Nearly 400 books have been added to the library in the past year. A special-non-circulating reserve section of books was established. Theosophical books are often donated to the library. These books are used to replace worn books on the library shelves and extra copies are used to begin "seed" libraries in branches and study centres. Should the group become inactive, the books would then be returned to National Headquarters.

Field Work.—This year the work in the field has greatly changed. Mr. Bing Escudero was appointed as our National Lecturer. This was made possible with a generous grant from the Kern Foundation. Bing, with his deep insight in Theosophy and his warm personality, has made a great contribution to the branches and centres he has worked with. We are all most grateful to him for his tireless devotion to the work of the Society. His visits have increased interest in Theosophy in many of the small places he visited.

During the past year my travels have included a visit to the Northern California Federation in San Francisco; Los Angeles and Ojai, California; and the Federation meeting at Orcas. I also held a healing workshop at Pumpkin Hollow Farm in New York, and in August at Camp Indralaya, Orcas Island. I lectured at the lodges in New York, Washington D.C. and Baltimore in January and March, and in May was the guest speaker at the Gulf Coast Federation meeting in New Orleans.

We also had the great pleasure of having Mrs. Radha Burnier, General Secretary of the Indian Section, stay with us at Olcott and give a workshop on "Raja Yoga: The Science of Self-Realization," which was a most rewarding experience. She also spoke in Detroit, Cleveland, Buffalo, Atlanta, New Orleans, Washington and New York. Her visits were much appreciated by all the lodges.

Mr. Harry Bromley, the National Secretary, spoke in Akron, Ohio in June, and also at the Akbar and Fellowship Branches many times during the year. Milwaukee also enjoyed his lecture.

Dr. Ruth Carter from Pensacola, Florida has been of great service to the Gulf Coast and Florida Federations. She has driven hundreds of miles on her tour of the region and has given unremittingly of herself.

Regional work was started almost three years ago with Miss Linda Jo Pym as Regional Coordinator for the Northwest Regional Project. For the last three years, participants in this programme have largely come from the Washington and Oregon area. The number of groups aware of the programme and participating in aspects of it has constantly increased. The number of new groups in this area are in many ways directly related to the work carried on in this project. The project offers support and on-going contact with individuals of similar interests. During the past year the process of stimulating interest has continued and has included more and more of the groups in the Montana area.

In January of this year the Northern and Southern California Federations combined in their efforts to form a California Regional Project with Miss Patricia Nickerson from the San Francisco Branch as Coordinator. The proposed goals of the Regional Project in California are: (1) to strengthen branches by improving the quality of organization and offerings (programmes, libraries, book sales and media uses) throughout California; (2) to promote greater unity through improved communication and cooperation among branches, study centres, federations, Far Horizons Camp, Krotana Institute and National Headquarters; (3) to provide training in the best use of resources, programming and media for personnel of each participating branch and study centre, (4) to increase awareness of the principles

of Theosophy and Theosophical Society membership in local areas.

The specific areas of concentration proposed by the Regional Coordinator are: (1) to work with the federations, branches and study centres in California to coordinate national and other high quality theosophical resource people when they are available for members' gatherings and public activities; (2) to distribute resources and act as liaison between National Departments of Education, Publicity and Public Relations and local groups; (3) to develop "Communication of Theosophy" materials for member and non-members use; (4) to maintain and make available a calendar of theosophical events in California.

A newsletter includes all the activities of the branches as well as the Far Horizons Camp. Thus every member in the California area has been kept informed and has been given an opportunity to participate in the various theosophical programmes and activities.

A similar project was started in the Northeast Federation early in 1978 with Ms. Andrea Narkawicz as Coordinator. The goals of this project are: (1) to establish support for a full-time regional coordinator, who would direct a regional development programme in collaboration with members of the Northeast directive; (2) to create an effective network of communication and cooperation for branches, study centres, and members-at-large in the northeast; (3) to provide appropriate services and resources to enhance the operation and programme development of branches and study centres; (4) to organize regional planning meetings, seminars, and workshops to help members enrich their studies of Theosophy, and to train those who wish to be more effective leaders, teachers, and workers.

The Northeast Federation journal, called *Necter*, began with this project

and the first issue has been released. Besides the publication of the current monthly activities of the northeast region, the journal is also a vehicle of communication between members wherein individuals can promote their studies, request information and seek contact with helpful sources.

Department of Education.—During the past year the Department of Education has continued to provide educational materials and services to member branches of the Theosophical Society in America and to the general public, to sponsor seminars and training workshops and to develop new educational materials and programmes.

Audiovisual Materials.—The audiovisual media continues to be one of the primary channels for communicating the concepts of Theosophy to our members and during the past year there was a 3.4% increase in the use of materials from the Department of Education by our members. During the past year 880 audiovisual materials were sent out to members and branches. A total of 49 branches and study centres used the Department—this was 6 less than the previous year or an 11% decrease. Audiovisual materials were borrowed on an individual basis by 80 individuals which was an increase of 67% over the preceding year. During the past year there has been a small, but significant, trend in the borrowing of our materials, increasing among members-at-large and decreasing among the branches and study centres.

Quest Cassettes.—This project was begun in 1973 in conjunction with the Theosophical Publishing House for the purpose of developing a series of cassette tape recordings on Theosophy which would be sold to the general public. The Department of Education produces these tapes and sells them to T.P.H. who, in turn, sells them to the public. During

the past year an additional eight tapes were added to this series.

This brings the number of tapes in the Quest cassette series to sixteen.

Olcott Lecture Tape Sale.—In addition to the sale of the Quest cassettes, the Department also makes and sells cassette tapes of most of the Olcott lectures.

Letters to New Members.—This programme has been in operation for 15 years now and continues to have a good response. Many letters of appreciation from the members for the New Member's Letters are received by the Department of Education during the year. Approximately 850 letters are sent out each month.

Study Materials.—During the past year a new study course was added to the collection of study materials available from the Department of Education. *An Introduction to Esoteric Principles* is the title of the new study course by William Doss McDavid. This intermediate level study course is based primarily on the writings of H. P. Blavatsky and other original source material from the early years of the Theosophical Society, and is an attempt to bridge the gap between elementary and more advanced theosophical studies.

New Tapes.—Audiotapes were added to the Department's tape library and are available, both in cassette and reel-to-reel, for loan to members of the Theosophical Society.

Correspondence Course Programme.—During the past year 46 new students enrolled in the Correspondence Course Programme. Of these 46 new students, 23 were members of the Society and 23 were non-members.

Quest Radio Tape Series.—The Quest Radio Tape Series is an effort to communicate some of the concepts of the Ancient Wisdom to youthful radio audiences. The series consists of thirteen half-hour, full stereo, radio broadcast

quality tapes on various themes such as love, peace, brotherhood, etc. The themes are explicated through quotes from several of the great spiritual and cultural leaders of humanity, and by music that is popular among college-age listeners.

This has been the second year of operation of the Quest Radio Tape Series and it has again been relatively successful in communicating to the youthful audiences which it was designed to reach. During the past year approximately forty stations broadcast the programme—several of the stations doing several broadcasts of the series. The total number of stations which have now broadcast the Quest Radio Series is eighty.

The Series is offered free of charge to stations with the stipulation that the complete series be broadcast and that the entire tape be played, rather than just a segment of the tape. At the end of each tape there is an announcement stating that listeners interested in further information about Theosophy or the Theosophical Society could write to us.

Film Distribution.—This was the second year for the distribution of the Quest films by the Theosophical Society in America which had in previous years been distributed to the public by Modern Talking Picture Service. This change in film distribution has brought in significant revenues to the Theosophical Society rather than requiring large expenditures. The total number of film rentals for the past year was 127, which was a 13% decrease in comparison to films rented in the preceding year. Approximately 40% of the film rentals for the past year were to colleges and universities and approximately 45% were to theosophical groups.

During the past year we continued with the distribution of the Quest films to the TV media though Modern Talking Picture Service. During the year Modern

Talking Picture Service recorded 267 bookings of the film *How Many Lifetimes* which was viewed by approximately 2,470,300 people, and there were 316 bookings for the film *The Universal Flame*, which was seen by approximately 3,147,800 viewers. Since the beginning of the Quest film programme it is estimated that approximately 38,224,400 television viewers have seen either, or both of the films.

During the past year it was decided to discontinue the TV distribution of the Quest films with Modern Talking Picture Service. In the future all distribution will be done through the Theosophical Society in America.

Theosophical Camp Programmes.—During the past year some rather significant changes have been made in the assistance which the Department of Education, supported by the Kern Foundation, gives to the four Theosophical Camps.

The most significant development was the decision to give direct grants to each of the camps for the theosophical programmes.

Another development was the production and mailing of a ten-page camp brochure to all of the members of the Theosophical Society in America. This brochure gave a brief description and was illustrated with photographs of each of the four Theosophical Camps: Indralaya, Pumpkin Hollow, Far Horizons, and Ozark.

In the past year partial scholarships were given to eight members of the Society to enable them to attend a Theosophical Camp programme.

Workshops and Seminars.—During the past year eight workshops or seminars were held at the National Headquarters of the Theosophical Society for the purpose of either training members to be more effective teachers of Theosophy or for the purpose of providing the opportunity to

study and learn more of some aspect of the Ancient Wisdom.

An invitational Healing Conference was again held at Olcott on October 21 through 23, 1977 for nurses, doctors and professionals in the health services area. The primary participants at the conference were Dr. Shafica Karagulla, Dr. Dolores Krieger, and Dora Kunz. This conference was attended by sixty-one people and investigated, among other things, proposals for the design and methodology of theosophical research in the area of healing. The function and use of the chakras and their relation to the subtler constitution of man was explored.

A workshop on "How To Communicate Theosophy: a Multi-Dimensional Approach" was held at the National Headquarters from October 7 through 9, 1977 for members only. The workshop which was attended by forty-five members was conducted by Mr. Bing Escudero and focused on teaching Theosophy to members and the public and developing a framework in which the branches and study centres could identify and cooperatively utilize their human resources.

"The Tao of Physics: The Relationship between Science and the Ancient Wisdom" was the theme of a two-day seminar held at Olcott November 5 and 6, 1977. It was conducted by Fritjof Capra, Ph.D., Meal Melvin, Ph.D., and Renee Weber, Ph.D. This seminar investigated some of the relations between the discoveries by contemporary research and science and the teachings of the Ancient Wisdom, and was attended by 101 people.

A Meditation Workshop was conducted by Mr. Bing Escudero on the weekend of December 2 through 4, 1977 at the National Headquarters. This workshop was attended by 109 people and its purpose was to explore the philosophical and practical aspects of several different systems of meditation.

"The Relationship between Theosophy, The Theosophical Society and the Process of Self-Realization" was the theme of a members' workshop which was conducted by Mrs. Radha Burnier at the National Headquarters on March 3 and 4, 1978. Mrs. Radha Burnier examined the process of self-realization and its relationship to the Yoga Sutras of Patanjali and the teachings of Mr. J. Krishnamurti. This workshop was attended by forty-one members.

A Teacher Training Workshop was conducted by Mr. Bing Escudero on the weekend of March 24 through 26, 1978 at National Headquarters. This workshop was attended by thirty-five members and focused on training members who were involved in teaching Theosophy to be more effective in their communication.

"The Spiritual Life: Its Philosophy and Practice" was the theme of a seminar conducted by Sri Madhav P. Pandit on May 20 and 21, 1978. Mr. Pandit is Executive Secretary of the Sri Aurobindo Ashram in India and has written numerous books on the yoga and philosophy of Sri Aurobindo. This workshop was attended by forty-five people, eighteen of whom were non-members of the Society.

Film Production.—The Theosophical Society has begun work on the preliminary stages of a new film on the impact of Theosophy on modern, abstract art and in particular the art of Mondrian, Kandinsky and Klee.

A new film of one of Geoffrey Hodson's lectures given at the Krotana School of Theosophy in the fall of 1977 was produced during the past year. This 16 mm, 50 minute color film entitled *The Hierarchy of Earth's Adepts* is available for rental to the branches and study centres for \$ 15.00.

Foundation For Radio Theosophy.—During the past year five branches of the Theosophical Society, Atlanta, Ojai,

Tampa, Tucson and Houston, have sponsored broadcasting the Foundation for Radio Theosophy tapes in their community. The three branches, Houston, Tucson and Tampa, have discontinued their sponsorship and currently only two remain as sponsors, Atlanta and Ojai.

During the past year a new radio series was developed and consists of thirteen tapes which were taken from the original ninety-eight tapes of the Foundation of the Radio Theosophy series. These new thirteen tapes are a selection of the best radio scripts from the Foundation for Radio Theosophy programme and have been edited, re-narrated and mixed with new music. This new series is entitled "The Eternal Quest: Exploring Man and His Place in the Universe" and will be available for broadcasting in September of 1978.

The Eternal Quest series will be available only on a free-loan basis to radio stations similar to the Quest Radio Series. The purpose of this series is to make available radio programmes on Theosophy to radio stations which would be interested in broadcasting the tapes free.

In the past, local branches, with assistance from the Foundation for Radio Theosophy, have purchased broadcast time; however, with the new Eternal Quest series it is our hope that we will be able to place these programmes on the air free of charge. Any branches interested in further information on this new series should contact the Department of Education.

The Aquarian Radio Teachings in Santa Barbara, California, also continues to distribute selected Radio Theosophy tapes free of charge to FM radio stations throughout the United States.

Graphics, Publicity and Public Relations Departments.—Last year the Department of Publicity and Public Relations, combined with the Graphics Department, was

started at Olcott. Mrs. Amy Sanderson was appointed head of this Department.

Narca Schor and Kathie Abbenhouse both are responsible for designing many of the posters which have been sent all over the country to help in publicizing and advertising National Lecturers' workshops and lectures and for advertising seminars and public lectures at Olcott which contributed greatly to the increase in our audiences. Mrs. Sanderson has also been most successful in working with the media to advertise our lectures and seminars.

Department of Information.—Barbara Bradley has been in charge of the Department of Information at Olcott. Her duties include: answering inquiries by mail and by telephone; and for the year she reports the following activities: approximately 1,925 letters mailed; approximately 6,853 leaflets distributed from the display table; 183 T.P.H. catalogues distributed; approximately 3,347 leaflets mailed out; 318 "You are Invited" membership applications were mailed; and 101 new members joined the Society after contact with this department.

During the past year the Department of Information began a prisoner correspondence programme between interested members of the Society and interested prisoners. There are presently thirteen members who correspond with twenty prisoners.

Dining Department and Maintenance Department.—Last fall Mrs. Rosemary Gizzo left Olcott to live at Krotana in California. I took over the Dining Department with the able help of Mrs. Marie Dastrup (our well-loved cook who has been with us for many years), Cindy Brown and others. In January, Kathie Abbenhouse joined our staff and since then has taken over the management of the Dining Department.

During the past year Peter McNiece has once again been our pillar of strength as head of the Maintenance Department.

Almost a year ago, the Theosophical Society bought a second-hand multilith from the Caterpillar Tractor Company, which was practically a donation. Since that time, Jeffery Forth has been running the machine almost day and night. He has been a most willing worker and has saved the Society a great deal of money.

The Theosophical Publishing House.—Since 1966, 159 titles have been released under the Quest imprint, and over 1,700,000 Quest Books have been sold. A happy side effect of this programme has been the greatly increased sales of our "non-Quest" titles. As Quest Books are designed to influence the trade, and with over 4,000 bookstores in the United States carrying them in stock, it was inevitable that interest in our basic texts would increase. This was evidenced by the almost immediate upsurge of sales of Adyar and London titles from 1966 to the present.

Rosemarie Stewart continues as our Editor-in-Chief, and Nee Ofoli-Adjaye as her assistant. During this fiscal year Michael King was employed to replace John White as assistant to Clarence Pedersen.

Selection and Production of Quest Books.—Books are selected for possible publication by Quest through an evaluation made by the T.P.H. Editorial Committee consisting of Rosemarie Stewart, Dora Kunz, and Clarence Pedersen. After a manuscript has been recommended for publication by this committee, it is presented, with a precis, to the Board of Directors for approval. Careful attention is given to content, status of the author, salability and also to the maintenance of a balanced publishing programme.

During the past fiscal year, fourteen new Quest Books were released, seven

during the fall season, and seven during the spring. Titles of the new releases are: *The Real World of Fairies*; *Healers and the Healing Process*; *Caterfly*; *Experiencing Reincarnation*; *Do You See What I See?*; *The Evolution of Integral Consciousness*; *Eating For Life*; *The Cathars and Reincarnation*; *Exploring the Great Beyond*; *International Vegetarian Cuisine*; *The Natural Man*; *Reincarnation in Christianity*; *The Inner Life*; *The Beautiful Necessity*.

Of the above titles, *Eating For Life* was a second edition of Nat Altman's book, revised and enlarged. *The Inner Life* is an abridged version of the two volume cloth edition which has now gone out of print. *Reincarnation in Christianity* was released in paperback and cloth simultaneously.

Statistics reveal that within twelve months of release, over 85% of our Quest Books have had sufficient sales to offset initial printing and royalty costs, and that, overall, during the first twelve-month period of release, gross receipts exceed initial costs by 37%.

In addition to the above releases, six Quest Books were reprinted. These are: *The Choice Is Always Ours*, 15,500 copies; *Gifts of the Lotus*, 8,000 copies; *Hatha Yoga*, 6,200 copies; *Imprisoned Splendour*, 3,200 copies; *Insights for the Age of Aquarius*, 5,200 copies; *Walk On*, 5,200 copies. Three titles were permitted to go out of print. These are: *Navajo Bird Tales*; *Sayings of the Ancient One*, and *Your Own Little Elf*.

Publicity Leaflets.—The leaflets continue to be distributed to the public without charge. Up to the present time, branches and study centres have been able to purchase the leaflets at 50% of cost, the balance being subsidized through a grant from the Kern Foundation. Beginning with the fiscal year 1978-79, all branches and study centres may

purchase leaflets at 25% of cost, receiving a discount of 75%. This higher discount was made possible by an increase in the grant received from the Kern Foundation for the upcoming year. With this additional subsidy being passed on to the centres, it is hoped to increase the distribution of the leaflets. Last year the T.P.H. distributed 72,000 leaflets.

Sales Promotion and Marketing of Books.—A major coast-to-coast advertising programme was inaugurated at the time the Quest Book programme was launched in 1966. This programme has remained in effect over the years. During the last fiscal year, Quest Books were advertised on a regular basis in the *New York Times Book Review*; *Saturday Review*; *Psychology Today*; *Publishers Weekly*; *Library Journal*; *Fate*; ten of the most influential newspapers in the U.S., and other media as the occasion demanded. Attempts are made to match the media audience with the subject matter of the book. This programme is completely funded by the Kern Foundation, and is the principal factor responsible for the original sharp increase in Quest and other T.P.H. sales. The programme is reviewed on an annual basis by the Advertising Manager of T.P.H., the President of the American Section, John Kern, and the Chairman of the Kern Foundation Trust.

A special catalogue featuring six of our clothbound books was prepared and distributed to 3,500 libraries. It is also planned to have another 3,500 printed and inserted into the programme being prepared from the American Library Association Convention this summer. For those Quest Books that command a wide spectrum of interest, libraries can develop into a very meaningful market. This was evidenced with the small success we experienced with *Reincarnation in Christianity* after favourable reviews in *Publishers Weekly* and *Library Journal*.

For the purpose of direct sales representation, T.P.H. has engaged the services of thirteen salesmen. These men cover most of the continental U.S. presenting our Quest Books to bookstores. Three of the five sales groups representing us have been doing so for over five years, and all of these people came to us with excellent credentials.

Two Quest brochures featuring our new releases were prepared and distributed during the past fiscal year. The brochures are included with orders shipped to individuals, with statements, and also are distributed to thirty-six branches and study centres.

One of our new releases, *Reincarnation in Christianity*, is being featured by the College Marketing Programme. This is a mobile unit that visits campuses so that professors might select new books for their classes.

A second "Quest Cassette" brochure has just been prepared. This features sixteen tapes and also a Quest Cassette Album. The brochure is distributed to individuals.

Recently, T.P.H. acquired 5,000 copies of the book *The Teaching of Buddha* at no charge, but simply to give away. This book has been distributed to our Quest Bookstores, and also is being used by Wheaton in promotional work. We have placed an ad in the *New York Times Book Review* inviting readers to write for a copy of this book. Their names are also added to our mailing list. Although this project is still quite new, we have received between three and four hundred requests for this book.

Quest Books continue to be distributed in England, the Common Market, and Africa by T.P.H. in London. Adyar distributes for us in India, and the Quest Book Agency in Australia and New Zealand. We have discontinued the services of Hurtig Publishers in Canada,

and now sell directly to the bookstores of that country.

The Theosophical Publishing House has continued its sales growth this year by an increase of over \$ 20,000 or approximately 5% to \$ 505,000. Complete sales statistics are not available yet due to the early cut-off for this report.

Sales for the entire fiscal year of 1964-65 totalled only \$ 42,985; whereas, the monthly sales totals for six months of this fiscal year exceeded that amount. As we must emphasize, of course, this growth could not have been achieved without the major grants so generously provided by the Kern Foundation; grants made possible by the far-seeing vision of Herbert A. Kern, who during his lifetime, as many will recall, exhibited the most vital interest in and support for the distribution of theosophical literature.

Net income from Operations was over \$80,000 or approximately 15-16% of net sales. These results reflect an improvement in the efficiency of operations, primarily through the efforts of our team of office employees.

Bookstore.—The Quest Bookshop in Wheaton continues to experience growth. This year sales reached \$ 60,000, an increase of 11% over last year. The bookstore sales represent approximately 12% of T.P.H.'s total sales. Warm and gracious service is given by our Bookstore Manager Zella Balch and her assistant Nancy Marlatt. During the coming year a radio series, advertising our bookstore, is planned. These efforts are expected to make many more people aware of the Quest Bookshop and, as a result, Quest books and the theosophical philosophy.

Inventory and Accounts Receivable.—The operations inventory has remained stable this year and, as a result, has not required additional funds for expansion. Accounts Receivable is another matter, however. Accounts Receivable have

increased this year by approximately \$ 15,000. A major factor in this increase has been foreign sales. T.P.H. London and Quest Book Agency in Australia have increased balances due to higher levels of sales. The length of time required for shipment of books does create a difficulty in current payment of accounts. In addition, both of these organizations have allowed their accounts to become significantly past due.

Our level of bad debt experience has remained quite low for the publishing industry and every effort is made to maintain good control on our customer accounts. It is expected that through improved credit procedures we will be able to reduce the outstanding accounts receivable as well as maintain our good experience level on bad debts.

Quest Bookshops.—Many members may not be aware how many Quest Bookshops are currently doing business in the United States. Our first bookshop opened in New York City has acquired beautiful new premises at 744 E. 53rd Street, and is doing very well. Our second successful bookshop is located at 717 Broadway Avenue East, Seattle, Washington, and our third is located in Los Angeles at 4628 Hollywood Boulevard.

During this year a Quest Bookshop was started in Boston at 122 Bay Street, and also one in San Antonio, Texas at 725 West Ashby. We are also pleased to announce the opening of our newest Quest Bookshop at 1416 Alice Street, Oakland, California. This expansion has been made possible by grants from the Kern Foundation.

Summary.—The Theosophical Publishing House is now in an excellent position for the future; with annual sales in excess of one-half million dollars and an established product line.

The American Theosophist.—*The American Theosophist* continues to be issued on

a monthly basis. As usual, ten regular issues and two special issues were published during the fiscal year. The figures show that 48,050 copies were printed, 5,000 fewer than in the previous fiscal year.

William W. Quinn, Jr. served as editor of the magazine until August of 1977. At that time Scott Miners began his duties as editor.

The Special Issue for the Fall of 1977 was entitled "Esoteric Traditions of the West." The Special Issue for Spring 1978 was entitled "Intuition and the Creative Imagination."

Mr. Brian Ziegler resigned from the advisory committee, due to a heavy work load and was replaced by Dr. Mary Jane Newcomb; the other three members are Mrs. Virginia Hanson, Mrs. Emily Sellon, and Mrs. Shirley Nicholson. Ms. Narca Moore Schor headed the graphics department until she resigned in January. At that time Ms. Kathie Abbenhouse began her duties as the graphics artist. Sincere appreciation is extended to Ms. Schor, Ms. Abbenhouse and the members of the Advisory Committee for the time they have given so generously to the task of evaluations.

Finance and The Kern Foundation.—Until the audited financial statements are available it is not possible to comment on the total revenue and expenditures for the fiscal year under review. We can give a brief summary. The Society received bequests of \$ 1,069,345.96, \$ 1,000,000.00 being from the Estate of Marie Blaise, which was publicized in the June issue of *The American Theosophist*. Donations to the Society were \$7,121.03 this year. Members responded to our appeal for Adyar Day with donations totalling \$ 7,018.03.

The Bookkeeping Department has been for many years headed by Miss Clarice Richie who, with the aid of Mr. Robert

Geiger, has kept our books in perfect order.

The Theosophical Investment Trust, which is the Section's principal financial arm, now holds funds in excess of \$ 2,127,988.30 in six capital accounts. As has been reported in earlier reviews, the Membership Endowment Fund continues to grow steadily. Thirty-two new members joined the plan in this fiscal year, which gives us a total of 446 active members on the list of these who have endowed their memberships.

Members of the Investment Trust, in addition to the Chairman, Mr. John Sellon, and the Society's three officers—the National President, National Vice-President, and the National Treasurer who serve ex-officio—are Mr. John Kern, Mr. Paul H. Dunakin, and Mr. Floyd Kettering. Mrs. Marcella Lord serves as Secretary to the Trust.

The Society owes a great deal to the Kern Foundation for its support. Mr. Herbert Kern, a long-standing member of the Society, established the Kern Foundation, which is being administered by the Northern Trust Company, for the purpose of spreading theosophical ideas throughout the United States. Funds from the Kern Foundation were always to be used for this aim. Therefore, there has been a restriction against using the funds for buildings and for salaries from the very beginning. Funds can only be channeled through a charitable organization for a specific project.

The Kern grants have made possible many of the new ventures of the Theosophical Society, like the regional projects. The Kern grants have assisted in advertising our Quest Books as well as new Book-

shops and have thus helped in increasing our sales and spreading Theosophy. The Kern Foundation has been most generous in helping us this year in so many aspects of the work of the Society. The grants received this fiscal year totalled \$309,820.00.

Mr. David W. Holman, Vice President of the Northern Trust Company, has been our corporate trustee for the past year. He has been most helpful in his comments and therefore has shown a genuine interest in how the Society's work can best be furthered. His friendliness and willingness to discuss our many problems from different angles has been much appreciated by all of us on the committee. Mr. John Kern is the liaison between the Society and the Northern Trust Company and I would like to express my thankfulness to him for his keen interest, his openness of mind, and also the dedication which he has shown for the work of the Society. During the year he has come to all of the Kern Foundation Committee meetings, which have been called from time to time, and takes an active part in planning many of the programmes. The Northern Trust Company has once again been most helpful this year in making room available at its headquarters for meetings of the Financial Advisory Committee.

I would also like to thank Mr. John Sellon, Chairman of the Investment Trust who travels to Chicago every quarter from New York (as well as sometimes during our Board Meeting), for giving the Investment Trust and Financial Advisory Committee the benefit of his expertise.

DORA KUNZ,
General Secretary.

ENGLAND

During the year 244 new members were admitted, twenty-two rejoined and twelve were transferred from other sections. There were, however, 105 deaths and resignations, 231 lapsings and ten transfers to other sections leaving a total on 30th September of 2,077. One new Lodge Charter has been granted and one new Centre authorized.

The General Secretary, Miss I. H. Hoskins, and Mr. V. W. Slater attended the International Convention at Adyar in December 1977.

Once again from 29 April-7 May the Society was represented at the Festival of Mind and Body at Olympia. A combined stand for the Society and T.P.H. London attracted many visitors and inquiries which repaid the hard work put in by H. Q. staff.

In May the Guest Speaker at the Annual Convention was the International Vice-President, Miss Joy Mills, who gave the Blavatsky Lecture entitled "The Human Journey", which was well received.

Miss Mills was also Guest of Honour at the European Congress held at Durham in August. There was an unexpected large attendance comprising members from about twenty-five countries including Australia, New Zealand, and India.

A feature of this Congress was the inclusion of meetings of the General Council, one session of which was an open one with delegates at the Congress present.

Miss Mills presided over the T.P.H. Conference which followed immediately after the Congress for two days. Representatives of T. P. H. Adyar, U.S.A., London, Holland, Germany, and France were present.

A very full programme of activities at the national H. Q. has been maintained throughout the year with the usual Sunday public lectures and study courses.

H.Q. is open every day of the week except Saturdays and during holiday periods.

After a continuous period of thirty years as *Secret Doctrine* Study Group Leader, Dr. Corona Trew resigned and handed over to Miss I. H. Hoskins. The T.P.H. London suffered a severe loss in the death of the General Manager, Mr. Michael Maxwell, after a very long illness during which he continued to advise his staff. He will be difficult to replace. In spite of a recession in the book trade, the T.P.H. shows an increased turnover compared with 1975-76 (1976-77 was an outstanding year and cannot be used for comparison).

Six new titles were published with good sales and five more books are in the press. A new General Catalogue has been produced as well as a special T.P.H. London list in order to increase sales of our own publications.

Tekels Park has been the venue for a considerable number of residential weekends. Amongst these may be mentioned the Theosophical Research Centre Weekend and others arranged by H. Q. Tekels Park is gradually becoming known to allied organizations who now regularly book weekends every year.

The H.Q. Library records the loan of over 3,000 books, almost one-third of which were theosophical.

The Tape Library has continued to perform a useful service. Several more tapes have been added and the demand is steady.

The English Section is fortunate in having a well-organized and capable H.Q. staff who work together harmoniously carrying out the many extraneous, and in some cases unexpected, demands on their time.

MARION CAWS,
General Secretary,

INDIA

The year under report saw the passing away of Dr. Iqbal Kishen Taimni who joined the Theosophical Society in 1913 and during the course of a life totally dedicated to the cause of Theosophy made an impact of an outstanding nature on the minds of a very large number of members all over the world. He was amongst those rare individuals who by virtue of greater insight into the truths and principles of Theosophy, are endowed with the capacity to inspire and help others. His books were and are widely appreciated not only in theosophical circles but also in universities and other centres of thought and study. Their exceptional value was recognized by the Theosophical Society when it awarded to him the Subba Row medal, although he cared little for medals and honours of a worldly nature. Dr. Taimni was an example of simplicity, bright cheerfulness and warm friendliness, essential attributes on the Path. The Indian section was fortunate in being able to number among its members one who possessed such noteworthy qualities of both intellect and heart. The best form of tribute we can offer him is to learn to forget ourselves in the service of others and to let Truth shine forth in our life and actions.

During the past year among other devoted members who passed away was Sri Harjivan K. Mehta whose life and work will be indelibly written in the annals of theosophical history in Gujarat. From 1903 when he joined the Theosophical Society, he laboured ceaselessly to strengthen theosophical lodges and to bring Theosophy to the world, not only by what he spoke but by the manner of his living. He was a familiar figure for many years at theosophical conventions and other gatherings.

Others who passed away include Sri Gokul Behari Verma who edited the Hindi theosophical magazine, *Adhyatma Jyoti*, and was a member from 1913 onwards; Mrs. Shyam Kishori Dar who also became a member in 1913 and was the daughter of Pandit Pran Nath known to many through the series of letters from the Masters of the Wisdom; Sri D. P. Rajbansi who was a resident worker at the India Section Headquarters for a number of years and whose dedication was a source of strength to the Headquarters; Sri Shambhunath Mehrotra, a stalwart member from the City of Etawah; Sri T. Krishnabrahma Sastry of Kakinada who was President of the Telugu Federation and a valued worker in that area.

The Indian Section membership shows a slight increase this year having risen from 9584 last year to 9657, a difference of 73. The number of lodges and centres remains more or less the same. There are now 354 lodges instead of 355 and 94 lodges with less than seven members instead of the 91 which we had last year. The number of centres is 20 instead of 23 and there is one centre with less than the required number of members.

On 17th February 1978, the International Vice-President, Miss Joy Mills, inaugurated the Assam Federation whose formation was approved by the Indian Section Council in December 1977. The addition of this new Federation makes the total number of Federations into 16. As Assam is somewhat isolated geographically it is hoped that by the formation of a separate Federation a greater incentive will be given to the theosophical work in the area.

In the Karnataka Federation the work for the year started with a plan to see that "no lodge is left unvisited" during

the year. In pursuance of it, tours were undertaken by the Federation workers and it is reported that encouraging results have ensued. More than 1100 copies of the Karnataka Federation journal which is published in Kannada were sent out, mostly to subscribers.

In the Gujarat Federation and other areas likewise a magazine is being published in the language of the area. It is necessary to make such publications in Indian languages a real channel for carrying the message of Theosophy not only to the members but to the public. In some Federations a fund or trust for the purpose of bringing out publications exists, but in those areas where there is no such provision, work should be started in this direction. In this connection, mention may be made of the fact that in Gujarat there are four trusts for the organizing of study camps and for bringing out publications.

Lodge buildings are being used in various parts of the country for extraneous purposes or for allied activities which supersede the theosophical work, the primary purpose for which the premises exist. Education, social service and religious activities of various kinds may be called "theosophical" in a broad sense if carried on in the right manner and spirit. However they often become activities which create confusion in the public mind as to the Society's aims and work. The so-called autonomy of Lodges often leads to exploitation by a group of persons with their own pet ideas. There is need to give serious consideration to the question of how to protect T.S. properties and to see that they are used for truly theosophical work.

The Kerala Federation report mentions that an exhibition of theosophical books and pamphlets was arranged at Cannanore and that a number of pamphlets were distributed free. In this Federation

several Lotus Circles are in existence to bring children into contact with theosophical atmosphere and ideas.

Study and Workers' Training Camps were held all over the Section. Under the Five Year Plan, training camps were arranged in Salem, Ujjain and Tapeswaram. These were directed by Smt. Seetha Neelakantan, Justice A. R. Bakshi, and Sri A. Suryanarayan Moorti respectively. A serious effort was made to get younger members to attend these camps in order to help them to become good workers in the future. The basic principles of Theosophy were taken up for study and as far as possible the participants were encouraged to come prepared for studying the books and discussing them intelligently. Training was also given in Lodge work and the different aspects of disseminating Theosophy. In Bengal, a study camp was organized by the Bharadwaja Lodge in Dutta Purkur, a suburb of Calcutta. Some inter-lodge meetings were held to enable members to come together. In Gujarat, the President of the Federation, Sri K. M. Jani, conducted camps at Konjali, Sihor and Kadoli, and Sri A. R. Bakshi directed a camp organised in Baroda. In Kadoli district, four conferences were held. In Karnataka, inter-lodge meetings were organized as usual at Gauribidanur and Gavirangapura. In Kerala, camps were held at Alleppey, Calicut, and Trivandrum and inter-lodge meetings were arranged at Chovva, Quilon and Alleppey. Unexpectedly large participation was obtained for a study camp in Tamil conducted at Madurai by Sri T. G. Viswanathan, the President of the Tamil Federation. The Tamil Federation is fortunate in having funds for expanding theosophical work and it is hoped that much more work of this nature in the language of the people can be organized. In Bihar, a camp was conducted by Sri Rohit

Mehta in Chapra. In Rayalaseema, there were three camps in Bellary and Hyderabad. In M.P., a camp was arranged in Ratlam and conducted by Sri Ram Rich Pal Agrawala. The Madras Federation has always had regular inter-lodge gatherings every month attracting a large number of members. During the last year, a series of lectures on the basic features of Theosophy was arranged in the Triplicane Lodge of the Federation. The South India Conference took place as usual at Adyar and was inaugurated by Dr. Jean Raymond.

The President, Mr. John Coats, visited several places in M.P. and Rajasthan Federation and also some important cities like Bombay and Chandigarh. As mentioned above, the International Vice-President, Miss Joy Mills inaugurated the Assam Federation at Gauhati and, in addition, visited Tejpur, Mangaldoi, Nowgong and Shillong and Malegaon as well as Calcutta. She also presided over the Utkal Federation meeting held in Bhubaneswar. She was accompanied by Smt. Seetha Neelakantan. I presided over various Federation conferences and, in addition, visited some places in Gujarat, M.P., etc., besides delivering a series of lectures and conducting discussions in Madras. Smt. Seetha Neelakantan visited various lodges in U.P. and also Salem, Trichy, Hyderabad and other places. Sri H. E. Hakim, National Lecturer, presided over the Kerala Federation conference and toured Lodges in M.P., Tamil and U.P. Federations. His ability to speak in Hindi and Urdu besides English adds to the usefulness of his visits. Km. Shubadha Telang also visited Lodges in U.P. and spoke in Hindi as well as English and addressed gatherings in a number of organizations on theosophical subjects. Sri Rohit Mehta presided over the Bihar Federation conference and gave a series of lectures in Madras

and visited various places in Maharashtra. Sri Ram Rich Pal Agrawala made an extensive tour of U.P. lodges and also visited places in M.P. and Bihar. Sri B. R. Mullik spoke at various places in Calcutta and conducted a study camp in Bhowali.

The publication of books in Indian languages continued. The Indian Bookshop has published a Hindi translation of Dr. Annie Besant's *Mahabharata*. Translations in Bengali of Annie Besant's *Man and His Bodies* and C. W. Leadbeater's *Dreams* by Sudhir Chandra Neogi were brought out. Sri Ramjivan Sinha, veteran worker in Bihar, published in Hindi a booklet on spiritual life entitled *Adhyatma Jivan*. In Kannada, translations by Sri T. V. Rachappa of *Man: Visible and Invisible* and *Letters from the Masters of the Wisdom*, first series, were brought out. A translation by Sri P. G. Chandrasekhara Panicker of *The Masters and the Path* in Malayalam was published by the Kerala Federation, which also brought out *Ideals of Theosophy* written by the Federation Secretary, Sri C. T. Kuttikrishnan, for junior members of the Society. The Gujarat Federation published three booklets on Theosophical Society, Theosophy and Theosophy in Daily Life by Sri K. M. Jani. The Marathi Federation published a translation by Sri B. G. Khaparde of *The Voice of the Silence* entitled *Nirvachi Vani*. From Orissa, a magazine called *Theo-Scientist* has been regularly published and has been much appreciated.

At Varanasi Headquarters, we have had the pleasure of welcoming Sri M. J. Lalvani who was appointed legal adviser of the Indian Section. He is doing work of great value by dealing with all records and matters concerning properties and constitutional questions. We are also fortunate in having at the Headquarters, Prof. C. S. Raghavan who was appointed

as Joint General Secretary of the Indian Section. He has been able to give his full time and attention to the work of the Section and the Headquarters, which has been very helpful in view of my unavoidable absences from Varanasi.

The magazine of the Indian Section was given a new shape and resumed the old title of *The Indian Theosophist*. Dr. C. V. Agarwal, Assistant General Secretary, has been entrusted with the work of editing the journal and improving the contents and appearance. The Journal, it is hoped, will grow into a real source of inspiration to members. Appreciative comments have been received about the journal but much has yet to be done.

The Theosophical Order of Service has continued its useful work. The group in Bombay was very successful in raising funds for cyclone relief in South India, in addition to doing other work as usual. Cyclone relief work was undertaken by Sri N. S. R. Pantulu and other members in Andhra where the damage was most severe. In Karnataka, the T.O.S. has once again been of great help to those handicapped persons who need wheel chairs and artificial limbs. Under the guidance of Dr. B. S. Venkataramana Setty, such persons have been provided with necessary equipment. Information concerning the work done in other places is available through the report of the

T.O.S. Details of work done to help those who endured great misery when unprecedented floods submerged vast regions this year will be reported later.

Members of the Theosophical Society have to be deeply concerned with bringing about progress and order in the world at all levels. Not infrequently, there is a fixation of interest in one aspect of progress only, whether it is the physical, intellectual, moral or spiritual. Those who are interested in so-called spiritual development do not care what happens on the physical plane. Others who labour to relieve physical suffering regard efforts made to raise the intellectual level or bring about inner awareness to be of remote interest. Life, however, is not contained in compartments. It may not be possible for ordinary persons to work for many causes and at many levels as Dr. Annie Besant did in such a marvellous manner. But it is possible to have a warm and outgoing interest and concern for everything which will help others and help the world in general at any level. Such breadth of interest and warm sympathy would act as a natural source of guidance in finding out what should or should not be undertaken in the name of the Theosophical Society.

RADHA BURNIER,
General Secretary.

AUSTRALIA

The past year has been a very busy one, marked by several important events, the outstanding ones being the inauguration of the Indo-Pacific Federation, the visit of the International President, Mr. John Coats, and the completion of stage one of the Mt. Helena project.

Indo-Pacific Federation.—The most momentous event was the inauguration of the Indo-Pacific Federation in Indonesia on 20th August, 1978, at which seventeen Australians were present. The initial seeds for the formation of a Federation were sown by the late Helen Zahara during her term as General Secretary when, largely through her efforts, the first Indo-Pacific Conference was held at Wallacia in New South Wales from 31st December, 1959 to 8th January, 1960. The idea of forming a Federation which would serve to build bridges of understanding between people from different religious and cultural backgrounds, was fostered by succeeding general secretaries and supported by the Australian Section. It is therefore pleasing to see their efforts reach fruition and it is hoped that member countries will benefit substantially through their association with one another. As a fitting and beautiful memorial to the initial work done by Helen Zahara, it was resolved that the first executive officers of the Federation should be Australians, namely Mrs. Elaine Murdoch (President), Mrs. Gladys MacCartie (Secretary) and Dr. Hugh Murdoch (Treasurer).

Annual Convention.—Our Annual Convention took place in Canberra, Australian Capital Territory at Burton Hall, a residential college within the Australian National University (21st to 28th January, 1978). The theme, "The Impulse Towards Wholeness", was thoroughly explored in talks and workshops. We

were particularly fortunate in having a number of very fine speakers who contributed to the various sessions, especially Mr. John Coats and his wife, Betsan, and our National Lecturer, Mr. Will Ross. Other speakers were Richard Silberstein, Geoffrey Miller and Roger Dunston.

A special feature was the large number of stimulating workshops, fourteen in all, which gave members a wide choice to select from and enabled them to participate actively instead of listening passively.

After the strenuous day sessions, members were happy to relax and enjoy the evening entertainments, ranging from "The Galleries of Europe", the more serious Roerich programme to the Fun Night and the popular "Question and Answer" night. Under recreation must also come the delightful boat trip on Lake Burley Griffin.

Work or play, it was a time to share and to cherish because of the happy relationships formed or renewed. The one feeling of regret was that our National Lecturer, Will Ross and his wife, Caroline, would be leaving Australia for an indefinite period in May. All lodges contributed generously to a presentation made on behalf of the members in Australia to them in token of our deep appreciation of all they had done for the Australian Section over the years they have been residents here.

Tour by Mr. John Coats.—Mr. Coats' tour of the Section was an outstanding success largely due to his very human and caring approach. He visited all the lodges and groups and was interviewed on radio and television and by the press. One Brisbane radio station was so impressed that he was invited to give a second interview. It is in this contact with the public that he is a most able ambassador for Theosophy.

National Lecturer.—Unfortunately, Mr. Will Ross was only available for re-appointment as National Lecturer until May when he and his wife left for overseas. In this final period he was able to visit the lodges in Adelaide, Atherton, Brisbane, Cairns, Canberra, Newcastle, Sydney and Toowoomba as well as the groups in Albury, Gosford and Sydney. He will be much missed.

Tour by Mrs. Radha Burnier.—An unexpected visitor was Mrs. Radha Burnier, General Secretary of the Indian Section, international lecturer and Director of the Adyar Library and Research Centre. During her brief tour she was able to visit and give talks to the lodges in Adelaide, Brisbane, Melbourne, Perth and Sydney. Many expressions of appreciation have been received.

General Secretary's Visits.—In keeping with the policy of endeavouring to visit as many lodges as possible each year and all lodges at least every two years, I have visited Atherton, Brisbane, Cairns, Canberra, Hobart, Launceston, Melbourne, Newcastle, Toowoomba and Townsville as well as the Gosford Group. Talks have also been given to Blavatsky Lodge. Visits to the lodges afford opportunities to meet members and discuss ideas and problems as well as giving talks to both members and public.

This year, too, I was most happy to visit Indonesia for the Indo-Pacific Conference and meet members from a number of neighbouring countries. During the period I attended Council meetings and was asked to give a talk.

Mt. Helena—see under "Lodges".

The Magazine.—*Theosophy in Australia* has been published quarterly and has continued the practice of using local contributors, except where an article from an overseas theosophical journal warrants inclusion. I have tried to include in each issue an article or item in "News

and Notes" on some worthy cause which may be an aspect of the work of the Theosophical Order of Service. These inevitably draw a good response in donations and are sometimes taken up by outside bodies such as Rotary and even Church groups.

The cost of printing is climbing astronomically and the magazine has been cut by four pages in the hope of containing the rise. This is most unfortunate at a time when members have expressed their appreciation of the journal and there is a backlog of excellent contributions awaiting publication. What is needed is some sizeable donations to enable us to increase the size or publish more often.

Mr. and Mrs. Perkins.—James and Kathrine Perkins returned to the United States on the 4th November after living in our midst since April 1971, with the exception of two short breaks. We shall miss these two charming and accessible people who were well known to members from their 1962 and 1972 tours of the Section as well as occasional talks to the lodges.

Lodges.—The outstanding achievement this year was the completion of stage one of the Mt. Helena Project by Perth Lodge. This gives Australia its first theosophical camp where it is hoped that a number of activities such as workshops and seminars of various kinds will take place. The success of the project so far has been due largely to the efforts of Phil and Ena Harris who spend over \$30,000 of their own money building the home into which they moved in August. Eventually the house will revert to the Society. Phil and several untiring workers spent many weekends labouring on the block to avoid spiralling costs. The next stage will be the building of the amenities block and the residential chalets.

The experience of other lodges indicates the great need for such camps where

people can relate to one another and be put in a situation where they can actually experience the brotherhood about which they so often talk. Other lodges which have been unable to afford camps have tried holding weekend activities at a country guest house. Blavatsky and Canberra Lodges have participated in three Ranelagh weekends this year, sometimes taking the whole house which holds over one hundred guests, and at other times half the house. In May, the highlight of the weekend was the presence of John Coats. Other lodges have held long weekend seminars which were not residential, but nevertheless the concentration of effort has proved these most useful such as the one given by Will Ross on "Buddhism" in Adelaide and that held by Toowoomba to raise money for its advertising.

It is at the lodge level that the work of the Society in Australia is largely maintained and they in turn depend on the support of their individual members to keep their activities alive and progressive. It is therefore pleasing to see a marked growth in vitality and an increase in younger members in many of them this year. One lodge, Newcastle, which was in danger of folding up, has gained a new lease of life and work is progressing well. Another small lodge, Gosnells, has had an increase in membership. The major lodges continue to hold weekly meetings, while most of the smaller ones are now holding weekly or fortnightly ones. At these meetings most lodges are experimenting with their programmes and finding that study and discussion groups are proving popular. Blavatsky Lodge has instituted Friday workshops and both at these and at its formal Wednesday meetings has experimented with devoting a whole month to one topic such as "Healing", "Parapsychology", "Man, Myth and Symbol" (Wednesdays)

and "The Kabbala", "The Ancient Wisdom", "Mental and Causal Dimensions of Consciousness" (Fridays). Cairns is using a Monday Conference Panel approach at its open meetings and Melbourne, Atherton and Canberra have instituted regular meditation groups and workshops. Peter Bowden of Adelaide Lodge is travelling around Australia and overseas this year and, while in Atherton, initiated a meditation workshop, taking the first four meetings; these have continued after his departure. Canberra feels proud that after only being chartered in 1971, they hosted the annual convention held in their city this year. Members rose to the challenge and handled their share of the organising beautifully.

Several lodges organised various activities in response to the call for money to meet the Section deficit. Adelaide, Canberra and Hobart, for instance, raised the money by holding dinner parties or fairs and claim that these brought the members closer together because they were group activities in which all shared.

Various lodges work for the handicapped, usually through their local T.O.S. group. Toowoomba, which has no such body, is busy raising money in the hope of providing a seeing-eye dog for a blind person in that city. Brisbane owns and looks after a Hospice for elderly ladies and, in Sydney, the McIntyre Centre owns and maintains units for senior citizens. Melbourne also owns the P. A. Bona Theosophical Units for senior citizens.

Magazines or newsletters are produced by lodges in Adelaide, Atherton, Brisbane, Cairns, Hobart, Perth and Toowoomba. These are circulated to the lodge members and serve to keep them in touch with each other. Information from these is also circulated to the members at large though the "News and Notes" Section of *Theosophy in Australia*.

It has long been the policy of some major lodges to support smaller lodges close to them. Thus Melbourne Lodge has donated \$1000 worth of new books to Canberra Lodge as well as a cassette player, projector and screen. Blavatsky Lodge sends speakers regularly to Newcastle and Gosford.

Melbourne Lodge has a refreshment room which is open daily during the week and before and after Sunday public talks. Members of the public often find their way to the library and bookshop afterwards. A Blavatsky Lodge member who manages the Wednesday Snack Bar has published a small attractive vegetarian cookbook and once printing costs were met, donated the profits to the lodge.

As well as the lodges, three groups exist—Albury, Gosford and St. George. Gosford group, which started last year, continues to hold its own and this year has moved into rented premises and its leader, Mr. John Green, has made and erected an attractive sign outside announcing coming events. A small shed in the grounds has also been renovated and electricity installed by the members and this is used to house its library. Guest speakers including Will Ross, John Coats and the General Secretary have visited some of these groups.

Services to Lodges.—A variety of material is made available by the Headquarters Office to augment local programmes and assist those preparing talks. These include:

Films and slides.—the three Quest films in 16 m.m. colour and sound, a short Quest film featuring theosophical camps in America, and a slide library with transparencies, mostly in colour, covering illustrations from basic theosophical literature. *Special programmes and illustrated study courses*, comprising scripts, slides, cassette or tape. Programmes for *Anniversary Days* such as Adyar and

White Lotus Day which form a useful basis for special anniversary programmes. *Study Courses* on subjects ranging from *The Secret Doctrine* to *Esoteric Christianity*. *Publicity leaflets and pamphlets* on many pertinent subjects which are ideal for enquirers and can be placed on view at public meetings, etc.; a new leaflet on *Membership* has proved very popular. As well, several old pamphlets have been revised and more attractively presented; leaflets for the National Lecturer and visiting lecturers like John Coats are available on request. *The Tape Library* (cassette and reel-to-reel) to which new tapes are being added constantly. These cover not only Theosophy but a variety of topics such as science, the arts, parapsychology, education, medicine, etc., some of which have been donated by the Headquarters Staff. Of particular interest is "The Tao of Physics" seminar with Fritjof Capra which was held at Olcott, the American Headquarters, last November. The American Section has made these available and we have a copy in our Library. Most cassettes may be borrowed or bought.

The quarterly *Adyar Newsletter* is sent regularly to lodges by courtesy of The Theosophical Society in Australia and keeps members in touch with both the International Headquarters at Adyar and the work around the world. For the benefit of all members, relevant parts of this appear in *Theosophy in Australia*. Last year in answer to a request by Mr. John Coats, we compiled a list of scientists in the Society. This provided Adyar with a register of trained people with experience in various branches of scientific work which are of interests to students of Theosophy. We assisted with names and, at the same time, the list helped us consolidate our local group which meets at Convention and has endeavoured to keep in touch through its bulletin, *Chit*—see later.

My monthly Contact Letter to all lodges and groups and quarterly one to unattached members keeps members informed of events here and abroad. Above all it is used to keep ideas flowing from the various lodges so that all may be informed so they can experiment with some of the ideas put forward if they wish. Thanks to the Theosophical Publishing House at Wheaton, we have also been able to supply minimally damaged Quest Books to new groups and even small lodges so that theosophical literature may be available.

Membership.—Membership now stands at 1300, an increase of 27 over last year. There have been 255 incoming members (176 new ones, 36 readmissions and 43 transfers). Against this there have been 228 outgoing ones (39 resignations, 138 lapsings, 14 deaths and 37 transfers). This is reassuring after the downward trend of the last couple of years. Through death we have lost a number of stalwarts including two nonagenarians, Miss Constance Radcliffe and Mrs. Alice Stichbury, as well as such respected members as Mrs. Alice McKenzie and Miss Rosa Norcott.

A monthly average of 208 letters has been sent to new members; this service is provided for the first 18 months of membership and is much appreciated judging by the members who write to us. Once again we are indebted to Mr. W. P. McKenzie for his excellent inscribing of the new diplomas.

Headquarters Staff.—The Headquarters Staff work as a team in which the work of each is important. At present it comprises, apart from myself: Miss Judith Fyfe whose duties include handling membership, letters to new members, the correspondence course and dealing with a number of enquirers; Mrs. Gerda Vanags (Secretary of the Australian Section Theosophical Trust and The Theo-

sophical Foundation Pty Ltd.); Mrs. Gladys MacCartie who is semi-retired and now works officially for less than one day per week; Mrs. Celia Novy (Manager of the Quest Book Agency) and Miss Jeannette Novy who has assisted her since Mr. Peter Massey left at the end of December. Regretfully, Mrs. Vanags left for overseas to visit her father at the beginning of July and her place has been taken by Mrs. Yvonne Pretzel. Mrs. Kagan also assisted for four days in the period during which some of the staff was attending the Indo-Pacific Conference.

It is most regrettable that rising costs have not enabled us to employ someone to replace Mrs. MacCartie. As a consequence staff, who are unwilling to cut back on activities, work long hours on a voluntary basis and some donate a day free of cost. Especially is this true of the Quest Book Manager who works late into the night. We are grateful to those volunteers who regularly assist Mrs. Novy and the Headquarters Office. Unhappily there are not enough of these nor are they trained to carry out the specialised work most of the staff do.

Especial thanks goes to the National Treasurer, Dr. Hugh Murdoch, who has borne much of the burden of the last difficult years and gives unstintingly of his time, both as treasurer and as chairman of the Theosophical Foundation Pty. Ltd.

Advertising and Publicity.—At our Annual Convention it was resolved to resume advertising, this time in *Cosmos*, the cost to be borne by the major lodges and smaller ones contributing what they can offer. This has resulted in a marked increase in enquiries to the Headquarters Office alone—52 written ones and many more telephone ones. Enquiries also come via the bookshops and the regular Sunday night broadcasts. 25 enquirers have subscribed to the 12-part Correspondence Course based on Felix and Eunice

Layton's *Theosophy, Key to Understanding*. Leaflets have gone to 52 enquirers. The new *Membership* leaflet has proved very popular. We are also updating leaflets as they need reprinting. To date we have done this to *Reincarnation*, *The Use of Thought Power*, *The Gateway of Birth and Approaches to Yoga*. Publicity has also come from radio, television and press interviews with John Coats and Radha Burnier and some lodges have received new members as a result.

There are various ways of increasing our publicity but here again we are handicapped by lack of staff and money.

Broadcasting.—The regular 15-minute theosophical broadcasts have continued on Station 2GB each Sunday evening and bring requests for scripts and information about Theosophy. This year, apart from our regular speakers, there have been a number of interviews with well-known figures. These include John Coats, Radha Burnier, Will Ross, Patrick Jansen (from the Jung Society) and Gilberto Rizzo (from the United Nations). The broadcasts result in a number of enquiries in the bookshops and the National Headquarters. Our sincere thanks to all who have helped with these, especially Mrs. MacCartie who has organised them in her own time.

Bookshops.—Our most valuable form of publicity must surely be our bookshops which are valuable resource centres and popular with the public who appreciate the friendly service and specialised books they can readily obtain. They are also excellent places to leave publicity leaflets announcing future programmes, workshops, guest speakers, films and coming events in general. First class bookshops operate in Adelaide, Melbourne, Perth and Sydney and a smaller but growing one in Brisbane. Other lodges like Hobart, Launceston, Cairns, Canberra, Newcastle and Toowoomba

sell books when meetings are held; mainly these are from the Quest Book Agency. The sale is small but constant from these.

Quest Book Agency.—We are fortunate in having Mrs. Novy as Quest Book Manager. She is not only experienced in the book trade but a tireless and enthusiastic worker who is willing to put in long hours to make a success of the Agency. This year sales have increased from \$37,726 to \$40,523. Books are sold to lodge bookshops, as well as to trade customers throughout Australia and New Zealand and some farther afield. Quest imports in bulk the popular paperback series known as Quest Books published by the Theosophical Publishing House, Wheaton, U.S.A. It also acts as agent for several other publishing firms including the Theosophical Publishing Houses in America and London; Compton Press, Salisbury, England; Watkins Publishing, England; The Adyar Library and Research Centre; Cesara Publications, Eire; The Secret Doctrine Reference series from Wizard's Bookshelf, Minneapolis; Point Loma Publishing (a sister theosophical body); RILKO (Research Into Lost Knowledge Organisation) England; Beshara Publishing, London and Dharma Publishing, California. At present we are awaiting a shipment from Kalakshetra, India (Montessori educational books).

This year a subject catalogue is available as well as the comprehensive one. Quest advertises in *Cosmos* but most orders come from the catalogue and, in Sydney, by Jeanette Novy contacting bookshops. We have also appointed representatives in Brisbane and Melbourne and have approached would-be representatives in Adelaide and Perth.

Thanks to the generosity of Launceston Lodge who paid her airfare, Mrs. Novy was able to visit Launceston and Hobart

in August and contact the various bookshops there. This has resulted in a number of new orders.

It is very difficult to make ends meet in an agency handling so many small orders but it provides a valuable means of getting our books to a wider public through commercial bookshops as well as to lodge bookshops.

The Theosophical Order of Service.—The autonomous T.O.S. groups in Australia continue to work for various causes, applying their special talents in many areas of concern to theosophists. Members from various States work, for instance, for Freedom from Hunger, Save the Children Fund, Adult Literacy, Kalakshetra, doorknock for AUSTCARE (Australian Care for Refugees), Amnesty International, Anti-Vivisection, special support for FRAME (an anti-vivisection body), the Aboriginal Medical Service Project Jonah, AuMoryaPur, Alternatives to Animal Experiments and many other areas. Mrs. Fearnside of Adelaide edits *The Australian Vegetarian*, Brisbane Lodge gives a bursary each year to the Queensland Conservatorium of Music. The T.O.S. is represented on a number of bodies such as the Australian Conservation Foundation, the National Council of Women and Aboriginal projects.

On the international scene, allocations from AUSTCARE have been made to various organisations such as the Kotagiri Cooperative, The Buddhist Orphanage in Bangladesh, the H.P.B. Hostel at Adyar and the victims of the recent floods in India. The National Director of the T.O.S., Mrs. Lorraine Moseley continues to work for AUSTCARE and, until recently, was Honorary Public Relations Officer for the United Nations Association of Australia. This year a donation of \$3,500 was allocated to the T.O.S. from the AUSTCARE Regular Doorknock Appeal for the Buddhist

Orphanage in Bangladesh which cares for refugee children orphaned by the war there. Another \$1000 was a special emergency grant from AUSTCARE and this together with \$200 from lodges and members was sent to the T.O.S. in Bihar, India for flood victims.

In most lodges, the work is dynamic but often passes unnoticed by the majority of members. Blavatsky Lodge, for example, has raised \$2,367.67 this year which has been used for work both here and abroad. Our deepest thanks must go to all those members who apply their Theosophy in a practical manner to "The Service of All Who Suffer".

Chit.—*Chit* is a bulletin which was born out of a discussion between some members of the Science Workshop at the 1978 Convention. Its aim is to diffuse information which will help the scientifically oriented Theosophist and others keep in touch with ongoing research relating to theosophical concepts across a broad spectrum of scientific disciplines. Its function is to enable members to communicate research in their own disciplines that may be of interest or value to Theosophists in other fields. Sincere thanks go to Mr. Dale Caird of Brisbane who is the editor and has done most of the work in compiling articles for the bulletin.

International.—Of necessity the main thrust of our work is directed to the work in Australia, but we are part of an international organisation which seeks to foster universal brotherhood. As such the National Headquarters remains in close touch with the International Headquarters in Adyar and with Sections and lodges around the world and we try to share this international link with the members in the magazine and in the Contact Letters.

This year a tour was organised to take members to Indonesia for the Indo-Pacific

Conference where the new Federation was inaugurated. The Australian Section played a significant role in its formation, actively participated in the Conference and will continue to be involved in the work of the new Federation. As we have been in the mainstream of theosophical activity longer than most of the member countries, it is hoped we will be able to assist them in a number of ways, especially in indicating how the Non-English Publications Fund may be used.

A donation of \$250 was made from the Indo-Pacific Fund to Mrs. Emiko Tanaka of Japan to assist her to attend the conference as it was considered desirable that her country be represented.

Because of our contacts, we were able to send four large book parcels to the Philippines when their Headquarters building was destroyed in early September and almost everything lost. Further parcels will be sent to them in the near future. Postage for this came from the Helen Zahara Indo-Pacific Fund.

The A.B.C. Fund stood at \$23,558 on 30th September, 1978 and its income during the year amounted to \$1,818. This is a capital fund held by the Australian Section Theosophical Trust for the benefit of the international work.

We would remind members that we also have a special Trust Fund under which members can make over property or funds now and receive the income during their lifetime. In many ways this is simpler than bequeathing property.

As usual collections and donations have been sent to Adyar for the Adyar Day and Rice Bowl Appeal. \$300 was sent to the Non-English Publications Fund which makes possible the translation of theosophical books from English into other languages. In sending the money we have always expressed the hope that it will be used for publications in those

countries which lie close to us, especially Japan and Indonesia.

Administration.—During the Convention at Burton Hall, Australian National University, Canberra, A. C. T., three National Council Meetings were held as well as the customary Annual General Meeting of The Australian Section Theosophical Trust.

The Sydney members of the National Executive Committee and the Directors of the Trust Company meet regularly each month; minutes of these meetings and relevant information are sent to all concerned with administration. I would like to thank sincerely all those concerned with this side of the work and support given to me personally.

Fact Finding Sub-Committee: A Fact Finding Sub-Committee was set up at Convention to look frankly at the problems confronting the lodges. Its task is not to criticise but to highlight specific problems and report back to the Council at the next convention in Hobart. It is hoped that the constructive work of this sub-committee will be of great assistance to our lodges in making them more dynamic centres of theosophical activity. Mrs. Shirley Miller was appointed as convenor and has been assisted by forward-looking members from each State. Mrs. Miller together with Miss Laurane Buchanan and Mr. Dale Caird formed a core committee to coordinate the work.

Finance.—Once again the National Treasurer has been ably assisted by Mrs. Gerda Vanags, the Assistant Treasurer, who puts in many hours, some voluntary, of concentrated work.

The Theosophical Foundation Pty. Ltd.: Dr Hugh Murdoch has filled the office of Chairman and Mrs. Vanags has continued as Secretary.

The building in North Sydney is held in trust for the Society and Blavatsky Lodge. Letting is still progressing slowly

and 9 floors plus the theatre are now let with 2½ floors vacant.

In continuance of its policy of promoting the objects of the Society, The Theosophical Foundation Pty. Ltd. gave financial assistance for publishing *Theosophy in Australia*.

Bequests.—In spite of constant prodding from Cairns Lodge, probate has not been granted yet on the estate of Mr. Ted Mann of Cairns. This money (\$18,000) is in Special Bonds left to the Society to be held for the benefit of Cairns Lodge.

During the year there was a small bequest of \$ 100 and the late Miss A.E. Cunningham (a one-time member) left us half her estate consisting chiefly of a small house. Probate has been granted but the house has to be sold and other matters settled by the Trustee Company before the amount is known.

Australian Section Fund and FOTSIA.—The Australian Section Fund which was revised at the 1977 Convention has continued. At the 1978 Convention the FOTSIA Appeal was launched. FOTSIA (Friends of the Theosophical Society) is an appeal to members who feel sufficiently committed to the work and are financially able to do so to join by promising to donate at least \$ 100 per year for 3 years. To date 11 members have done so. Both these appeals were launched in an attempt to reduce the Section deficit. So far total of \$14,955 has been received, made up as follows: \$ 6500 in 1977, \$3846 in this financial year, \$3723 from the lodges as their contribution to the Section deficit and \$875 from FOTSIA.

Research Library.—The Research Library is one of our most ambitious undertakings and it is hoped that eventually it will be able to take its place beside other famous theosophical libraries such as those at Adyar and Wheaton. A useful library is slowly being built up from standard theosophical texts and

journals which we already possessed (such as *The Secret Doctrine*, *Isis Unveiled*, complete sets of *The Theosophist* and *Theosophy in Australia*, etc.) augmented by generous donations from members. The library is used by the occasional researcher—theosophical student, students writing university theses, university lecturers and radio staff researching a programme. Because we are short staffed, this work is largely being carried forward by volunteers. For instance, one member is spending his lunch hour arranging books for cataloguing.

Conclusion.—The lodges of the Australian Section are very like people. They have their ups and downs. There are always some lodges which are strong and vital, others which are struggling to keep going, who are, as it were, maintaining a holding position until someone dynamic gives the impetus needed to start a new upward cycle. At the time of the Centenary it seemed that most Australian lodges were in this holding position. The Centenary Year appeared to mark the end of a major cycle and lodges were uncertain how to proceed into the second century of theosophical activity.

This year it is pleasing to find added vitality in a number of lodges and a greater awareness of where they are going. This is especially true of most of the smaller ones which seem to have taken a new lease on life. The upward trend is still in its infancy and will need careful nurturing. That there is keen interest in theosophical thought is apparent. What is urgently needed is dedicated members willing to prepare themselves as leaders who can assist people, through workshops, discussions and talks, to study and discover for themselves the timeless principles of Theosophy.

ELAINE MURDOCH,
General Secretary.

SWEDEN

In Sweden there are, as before, local groups/lodges with regular meetings in five towns. The Section as such arranges public lectures and study circles in our premises at the national headquarters in Stockholm, where also our well situated bookshop has been in business and easily accessible to the public for about two and a half years. Being managed by a few members four afternoons a week, it is steadily increasing its turnover, thus financially supporting the upkeep of our headquarters with its library. Membership has slightly decreased by 8 and we were 310 members by the end of the period.

Our magazine, *Teosofi i Norden*, is continuously being published quarterly in cooperation with the Norwegian Section and we issue a newsletter, also four times a year, with information and special articles for members. We have completed the publishing of an abridgement of *The Universal Flame* in Norwegian and Swedish and are now preparing to publish a Swedish translation of A. K. Winner's *The Basic Ideas of Occult Wisdom*, the manuscripts of which are already in use by a study group in Stockholm.

In March a couple of Swedish members participated in an European study week end at Tekels Park, Camberley; in July we had a successful Summer School with Miss Joy Mills and Mr. Sigvaldi Hjalmarsson as our guests, and ten Swedish members took part in the European Congress in Durham.

There is sympathy and an harmonious atmosphere concerning our activities together, but a growing awareness of the need for a new clarity and strength to guide us. Theosophy, like life itself, looses its inherent dynamism when there is a feeling of having become accustomed to it. The international contacts during the period have indicated that there is specific material available in the Society, the continuous study of which would, as a result of individual assimilation, make us more able to communicate in terms of helpful, basic and informative understanding. It is felt that this would, first of all, also yield the adding of freshness and vitality into our work.

GUNNAR LARSON,
General Secretary.

NEW ZEALAND

It is my pleasure to be able to report another year of satisfactory progress for the New Zealand Section of the Society. 1978 has in fact been a memorable year for us with an extensive tour of the country by the President, Mr. John Coats, and a shorter but nevertheless greatly appreciated visit by Mrs. Radha Burnier.

Mr. John Coats' Tour.—It was our privilege to welcome Mr. Coats to New

Zealand on the 18th February and to have the benefit of his company until April 2nd. During that time he visited 18 lodges and groups throughout the country, delivering 16 public lectures and 9 members' talks. Everywhere he went he attracted splendid audiences and left a trail of goodwill and fraternity. He was also our guest speaker at an Easter Camp held in New Plymouth and

attended by some 50 members. There again he contributed 3 talks and we were also privileged to have an outstanding address from his wife, Mrs. Betsan Coats, who had joined him for the South Island portion of his tour. It was a pleasure to have their company and we thank them very sincerely for their wonderful contributions to the work of the Section.

Mrs. Radha Burnier's visit.—We were also particularly fortunate to have a visit from Mrs. Radha Burnier, the General Secretary of the Indian Section and a recognised international lecturer. She was with us for a little over a fortnight, during which time she delivered 5 public lectures and 3 members' talks. She was able to lecture at Auckland, Rotorua, Orewa, Wellington and Christchurch Lodges, but unfortunately had to forego her scheduled visit to Dunedin Lodge owing to impassable snow and ice conditions. Our sincere thanks, for a very valuable and greatly appreciated visit.

Visiting Lecturers.—Once again we are indebted to a small but very devoted group of members who have contributed their time and talents to the dissemination of Theosophy.

Our National Lecturer, Mrs. Mavis Hardy, must be particularly thanked for her contribution, since she has visited every lodge twice during the year, in many instances conducting members' meetings as well as delivering public lectures. These have always been very well received and have attracted large audiences.

We are also grateful to Mrs. Joy Powis, Mr. Jack Patterson, Mr. Dudley Gower, Mr. Gavin Laurie, Mr. & Mrs. Frank Wilson and of course, Mr. Geoffrey Hodson, for their generous services in this connection.

Spotlight Lectures.—The "Spotlight" work of introducing Theosophy into

towns where there is little or no established T. S. activity, has been continued this year with, I submit, very worthwhile results. Attendances have varied from very poor to excellent, but with worthwhile groups being established in several places.

Mrs. Joy Powis, in particular, must be thanked for her frequent visits and lectures in Blenheim, Greymouth and Ashburton, and our sincere thanks too, to Mrs. Beam, Mrs. Gey and others who have assisted Joy in this work.

Mr. Jack Patterson also, "spotlighted" Hawera (with special thanks to the Pollock family of New Plymouth), Blenheim, Motueka, Greymouth and Ashburton, attracting excellent audiences to his meetings.

Mr. John Sell and Mrs. Mavis Hardy both "spotlighted" Tokoroa for us, and Mr. Gavin Laurie did the same in Blenheim. Wellington Lodge, under Gavin's supervision have been introducing Theosophy to Lower Hutt, and H. P. B. Lodge in Auckland have continued with their suburban lectures in Kelston and Manurewa, and have this year extended their coverage to Takapuna.

Discussion Groups.—It is particularly gratifying to see that as a result of this "spotlight" work we now have a thriving group of members and enquirers in Greymouth, and we are indebted to Mr. John Bird for his capable leadership here.

Smaller groups are now established in Ashburton and in Tokoroa, while in Invercargill we have another very active group which has been built up thanks to the efforts of Mr. & Mrs. David England. David, unfortunately, is being transferred but I am pleased to report that the group is continuing to meet under the care of Mr. Rex Findlay.

Lodge Activities.—Reports from our lecturers and other sources indicate that all lodges have been particularly active

this year, inspired no doubt by the visits of Mr. Coats and other lecturers.

To all officers and lodge members we extend our sincere thanks for their devotion and selfless efforts in the cause of Theosophy.

The number of lodges stands unchanged at 17.

Films.—During Geoffrey and Sandra Hodson's visit to the Krotana Institute of Theosophy in California, late in 1977, the American Section had a film of one of Geoffrey's lectures professionally produced. Geoffrey has very generously gifted his copy of this film, entitled "The Hierarchy of Earth's Adepts" to the N.Z. Section for our use. Frank and Elsie Wilson have already toured several lodges, screening this film for us, and it has been very well received. We are most indebted to Geoffrey and Sandra for this very valuable addition to our film library.

Our other films have continued to be used with excellent results and have attracted large audiences including one group of 400 people at a screening shown by the Senior Lecturer in Psychology at the University of Otago.

Two more films have been ordered from America to extend this aspect of our work, but as yet they have not arrived.

Section Library.—This continues to be a valuable part of the work of the Section, some 500 books having been loaned during the course of the year. New books added to the shelves this year totalled 35.

Theosophical Cassette Centre.—Since its inception some 5 years ago, Mr. Frank Wilson has supplied 1800 cassettes of theosophical lectures, in addition to many hundreds that have been re-recorded. Included in these are 102 copies of Mr. Hodson's book *A Yoga of Light*, many orders for which have come from overseas—one of them being from Finland.

We are most obliged to Frank for all the time and effort so generously devoted

to this very important contribution to the Section's Work.

Youth Journal.—The young people's contributions to this publication were much more encouraging this year and a further issue of *The Younger Member* was distributed late in the year. Whether further issues of this journal are warranted, particularly in view of the new magazine *Phoenix Rising* now being published by the I.T.Y.C. in Adyar, is something that will need to be considered.

Publicity.—In an endeavour to attract new subscribers to the Section magazine *Theosophy in New Zealand*, our newspaper and magazine display advertising this year featured a special introductory offer of a 12-month subscription for only \$1.00. The public response was particularly gratifying with 570 replies, a number from people who have already joined the Society.

These enquirers have a continuing association with the Theosophical Society through the regular quarterly issues of the magazine and past experience has shown that many of them choose to join the Society when their subscriptions come up for renewal.

Further large quantities of the American pamphlets have been imported and distributed again this year, the Lodges obviously finding them helpful in their work. *A Spiritual Science for Today* is also in steady demand as an introductory booklet for enquirers.

Forty copies of Head and Cranston's new book, *Reincarnation: The Phoenix Fire Mystery*, have been ordered for free distribution to the major public libraries throughout the country. This book deals very competently with its subject and in addition devotes 72 pages to the work of the Theosophical Society.

Mrs. Radha Burnier was interviewed on T.V. during her visit, and Mr. John Coats participated in several radio

interviews during his tour. Mr. Gavin Laurie also made a valuable contribution when he spoke on Theosophy on a young people's T.V. programme compered by "Stu".

"Theosophy in New Zealand".—Under the capable editorship of Mrs. Roma Dunningham the Section magazine has maintained its high reputation as a quality theosophical journal and attracts many favourable comments from home and abroad.

Unfortunately, printing costs continue to rise, the latest issue costing 60.5 cents per copy. Circulation is in excess of 9400 copies per annum, and paying subscribers currently number approximately 700.

Letters to New Members.—New members have continued to receive monthly letters during their first 18 months in the Society and we have received a number of appreciative notes in reply. During the year, 3000 letters were mailed to these members.

Indo-Pacific Federation.—The General Secretary represented the N.Z. Section at a conference held in Yogyakarta, Indonesia, from the 18th to 21st August. The object of the conference was to establish a Federation of the Theosophical Sections and Lodges within the Indo-Pacific area, its work to be complementary to that of the European Federation and the Inter-American Federation.

It is to be hoped that in the years to come, New Zealand will be able to offer meaningful assistance to those Sections and Lodges in the Federation who are unquestionably less fortunate than ourselves.

Orewa Project.—During his visit, Mr. John Coats dedicated the splendid new Community Centre and Lodge Room which was financed and built by Iona Flats Incorporated. This attractive new building is proving to be of great benefit

to the Orewa Lodge which is drawing large audiences to its meetings.

The sale of the second block of Arundale land is still incomplete due to prolonged delays in obtaining town planning approval to its development. The survey has been completed however, and it is hoped to have this registered in the near future.

Financial.—We are very grateful to the many generous donors who have contributed once again to the Voluntary Fund, donations this year totalling \$2114.

Since the major portion of our income now comes from investments, these have been carefully administered to ensure a satisfactory return to the Section. Costs unfortunately continue to escalate.

Membership.—As at the 30th September 1978, membership stands at 1528, representing a nett gain of 61 for the year.

Called to Higher Service.—Among those who have passed on during the year, we would like to pay particular tribute to the following: Mrs. Margaret C. Calvert, who at the time of her death was the member of longest standing in the Section, having joined 74 years previously; Miss Mary Graham, well known at Adyar and a devoted member of long standing, having first joined the Society in India; Mrs. Catherine Patterson, a very loyal member who served the Society for 59 years; and Mr. Walter Tanner, a past National Lecturer for the Section and most valued worker. He will be sadly missed in the N.Z. Section.

Appreciation.—Our very sincere thanks are due to all those loyal members who have contributed so generously to the advancement of Theosophy in New Zealand and without whom no progress would be possible.

Without specifically naming them, may I please express my personal thanks to all Lodge Presidents, Secretaries, and workers everywhere, to our lecturers,

Section Officers and to the Board members on the Properties Trust and other committees. I am deeply grateful to them all.

In Conclusion.—The Theosophical Society in New Zealand is in splendid heart and I am confident that in the years ahead it will be a major influence in the community. The thought

atmosphere of our times is increasingly in sympathy with the philosophy which we offer and it is our responsibility to ensure that the teachings of the Ancient Wisdom are freely available to all seekers for the truth.

NEILL M. EDGAR,
General Secretary.

THE NETHERLANDS

Mr. Marijn Brandt, our General Secretary, who was eligible but who did not wish to be re-elected in May 1977 for health reasons, was succeeded in September 1977 by Mr. Arend Heybroek.

At 30th September 1978 we had a membership of 950 compared with 962 a year earlier. The Lodges Del Helder and Apeldoorn dissolved and became Centres. The Centre Almelo is going to be a Lodge.

A nicely organized and interesting long study-weekend was held at the International Theosophical Centre, Naarden from 16th to 19th June 1978. The subject was: "What Defines our Image of Man?" (Is man free or fixed?) Mr. Ronald Engelse gave a lecture entitled: "How are We Constructed?" Mr. Jelle van der Schoot (aged 84) talked about: "Destiny and Free Will, seen from an Astrological Basis." Mrs. Nan Meyer spoke about: "Theosophical Aspects in connection with Free Will." All the speakers are members of our Society. The lectures and other meetings were attended by about 60 to 70 persons.

Our Central Library at Amsterdam is closed for a few months because of a general reorganization and reconstruction by one of our members, Mr. Daan Van

Egmond. In due time it will be opened again and then we hope to have a modern and very up-to-date library. There will also be a study-centre starting there. Our Publishing House and our Bookshop are in full swing. There is much interest in theosophical books, also from non-members. Besides a very large number of theosophical books in English there are about 40 different books in the Dutch language obtainable in our bookshop. Our Publishing House reprinted this year in Dutch *Ganesha* and from Rohit Mehta *The Creative Silence* and *Seek Out the Way*.

The Staff Course that has been going on now for two years is prolonged to four years. About 15 members are following the course with enthusiasm. The basis is formed by the study of Theosophy. Besides this, instruction is given in some modern communicating techniques to enable the members to convey Theosophy in a modern way.

Our new Headquarters in Utrecht gives very much satisfaction. Most days of the week there are workers present to give information, to sell books and to do all kinds of work for our Society.

A. M. A. HEYBROEK,
General Secretary.

FRANCE

The number of members in the French Section has slightly increased during the year which ended on the 30th of September 1978, from 1467 to 1475. The number of Lodges, which was 42 the preceding year, is now 36.

As usual the activities of the Section have been concentrated mainly in our headquarters, in Paris. Two public lectures a month and a weekly course on Theosophy have been given regularly, except during Summer.

Our annual Convention was held the first and second of April. The public lecture was given by our guest of honour, Mr. Geoffrey Farthing. A great number of members of our Section participated in the European Congress at Durham.

Our magazine, *Le Lotus Bleu*, which was founded by H. P. Blavatsky in 1887, has continued to be issued as the official organ of the Belgian, Swiss and French Sections, with an average printing of 1900 copies.

Our Publishing House, the Editions Adyar, has supplied French speaking people with new reprints of French translations of the following books, some of them being out of print since a long time; *In the Outer Court* and *The Occult Life of Man*, by Annie Besant; *The Inner Life, The Hidden Side of Things, The Devachanic Plane* and *To Those Who Mourn*, by C. W. Leadbeater.

SALOMON LANCRI,
General Secretary.

ITALY

The Italian Section consists of 26 Groups and 4 Study Centres. During the year a new Group was established under the name "Dharma" at Pratrivero and a new Centre at Nuoro (Sardinia).

The number of members is 713 with an increase of 63 and 106 new admissions, but there are still 32 in arrears and 11 died during the year.

The magazine *Rivista Italiana di Teosofia* was published regularly and this year reached 750 subscriptions among which there are about 200 non-members. The Section bought its own IBM Composer in order to reduce the expenses of printing. The composition is carried out by our members at Trieste.

The 64th Annual Convention took place at Riccione Marina with 106 participants and with the theme "Theosophy and Parapsychology". Mrs. Hermine

Sabetay was the guest speaker. The Convention, as usual, lasted 4 days, namely from 25 to 28 May 1977.

We are still trying to obtain from the Government legal incorporation in order to acquire some legacies and we hope to obtain it soon.

The Theosophical Publishing House "Sirio" in Trieste is going to publish the second edition of A. Besant's work *A Study in Consciousness*, which will be ready at the end of the year.

A remarkable event was the trip of 34 members from Italy to the Headquarters at Adyar. At the end of this year two other groups are going for a longer stay there.

The T.O.S. did good work during the year under the guidance of Mrs. Buchal, who after three years, did not stand for re-election. She is replaced by

Mrs. Lucchini Livia (Milano, Via Beruto, 13) who is just going to India for some months to help in a leprosarium at Rishikesh.

The General Secretary, as usual, toured

Venice, Rome, Geneva, Torino and Milano and lectured at Udine, Gorizia and elsewhere.

EDOARDO BRATINA,
General Secretary.

GERMANY

During the year the members were regularly informed by written reports about the internal events of the Section. The General Secretary, Mr. Siegfried Kuska, and other official members have been active in lecturing in several lodges. Study-weekends took place in North and South Germany. In June the International Vice-President, Miss Joy Mills, gave a training course about group work for fifteen members, dealing with particular subjects in *The Secret Doctrine*.

The most important event was the Spring-School at a very beautiful place in South-West Germany. Its theme was chosen from the book of Clara Codd, *Trust Yourself to Life*. A new General Secretary was elected, Mrs. Gerda Höfer. Visitors from different countries in Europe participated in the Spring-School and some of them gave inspiring lectures.

GERDA HÖFER,
General Secretary.

CUBA

Administrative Activities of the Section: National Presidency.—The National Presidency stands the same, as elected for the period 1977, 1978, 1979:

Bro. Juan Bautista Rodriguez Oliva, National President; Bro. Dr. Dane Cruz-Bustillo Artigas, National Vice-President.

National Convention and Board of Directors.—The 73rd National Convention held its meetings on January 20, 21 and 22 at the Section's premises in Havana. The programme of the Convention was centred on *Self-Realization*.

The Administrative Sessions of the Convention were held according to the Rules of the Section and the programme. The National President appointed for one year in accordance to the Rules of the Section the following:

Bro. Dr. Luis M. Coloma Delgado, National Secretary (Lawyer); Bro. Dr.

Alberto Alonso Navarrete, National Assistant Secretary (Lawyer); Bro. Jose Gallo Ramirez, Recording Secretary; Bro. Lic. Carlos Herrera Yanez, Assistant to the Presidency; Bro. Dr. Dana Cruz-Bustillo Artigas, Asst. Editor of *Revista Teosofica Cubana*; Sist. Dr. Lelia Fernandez Pagola, Manager of *Revista Teosofica Cubana*.

The Board of Directors appointed for one year are:

Bro. Alfredo Cabrera Martinez, Treasurer; Bro. Ramiro Blanco Calas, Vice-Treasurer; Sist. Dr. Lelia Fernandez Pagola, Librarian; Bro. Lic. Carlos Herrera Yanez, Auditor.

Theosophical Festivities.—Founders Day (November 17), Adyar Day (February 17), White Lotus Day (May 8), Wesak Full Moon (May 21) and Asala Full Moon (July 19) were suitably celebrated with special meetings.

Joint Meetings of Members.—These continued as usual in the different Lodges of Havana. During the months of January and February 1978 the activities of the members were confined to the Convention and "Adyar Day", respectively. During the months of May, June and July, 1978, the monthly meetings of members were suspended because of the commemoration of "White Lotus Day", "The Wesak Full Moon Festival", and "The Asala Full Moon Festival".

The joint meetings of members were characterized by the quality of the works, the spirit of unity, harmony and fraternity. We want to point out the meeting dedicated to Dr. I. K. Taimni soon after his passing out, which symbolizes our posthumous homage.

Lodge Activities.—All the lodges are very active and each one follows a systematic plan concerning the subjects adopted.

Atma Lodge has two aspects in its programme, one of devotional character, which is completed with a sound on readings of "At the Time of Meditation" and has started a new round with readings of "Sadhana". Concerning its studies aspect it is following a course on "Rudiments of Theosophy". The expositors are: Dr. Encarnacion Sanchez and Bro. Eng. Juan Alfonso Sanchez.

Annie Besant Lodge has a specific programme for each week, which forms the month's programme. The subjects presented starting in October 1977 were: "Psychology and Theosophy" by Bro. Alfredo Puig Figueroa, developing different aspects of this theme as follows: A Study of the Self, The Seven Streams, The Radiant Beings, The Fusion of The Atoms and the Loom of Life, Consciousness. This theme is being continued. Other themes have been worked out like "The Fairies in their Work and Play", by Sister Hortensia Diaz de Villegas,

and "Characters of the Great Fraternity in the Old Testament", "Death and Reincarnation" and "The Ascent of Our Lady", by Bro. Justo Reyes Moriche.

Kut-Humi Lodge, studied in the first part of the cycle *The Secret of Self-Realization*. It was followed by "The Doctrine of Occultism about Perception and its Corroboration by Modern Science" (The Doctrine of Gunas, Buthas, Indriyas and Tanmatras). At present the study is centred on *Self-Culture* by Dr. I. K. Taimni. The lecturer is Bro. Dr. Dana Cruz-Bustillo Artigas.

Heracles Lodge continues its Basic Course of Theosophical Knowledge. During this period The Work of the Triple Logos has been studied. At present "The Seven Rays" is being studied. The expositors are: Sister Dr. Lelia Fernandez Pagola and Bro. Juan Bautista Rodriguez.

Lealtad Lodge has followed a programme about "Theosophical Thoughts." Lecturers are Bro. Dr. Danilo Bernot Ramirez and Bro. Lic. Eduardo Carbonell de Zayas.

Mahachohan Lodge has followed a programme of devotional content directed by Sister Maria Carlota Aguilar and as lecturer the President of the Lodge Sister Maria del Refugio Sengo Pozos with the subjects: "The Physical, Psychic and Spiritual Man". A third part of the session is devoted to a course on Astrology with, as expositor, Bro. Carlos Herrera Yanez. Another cycle was dedicated to "Mystic India."

Devenir Lodge follows a programme incorporating three aspects: "First Principles of Theosophy", "Moments of Meditation" and "The Bhakti Sutras of Narada", by Bro. Eduardo Pimentel. The first part is by Sister Concepcion Rodriguez. During April the programme was changed to "Fundamental Studies of Theosophy" by Sisters Edilia Figueredo

and Maria de los Angeles Reyes, and "Yoga," basic theory and practical ideas by Bro. Educardo Pimentel. Starting next month a new cycle will start about religions.

Marie Poutz Lodge has followed a course on "Study and Analysis of *Isis Unveiled*" in the first part of the session, and in the second on "Occultist Anecdotes and Narrations" and readings and commentaries of *Reminiscences of Helena Petrovna Blavatsky* by Countess Wachtmeister. The expositor is Bro. Juan Bautista Rodriguez Oliva. In the second part Sisters Evangelina Arbolaez and Dr. Lelia Fernandez Pagola have also taken part.

Lodges and Members.—This year ended with 19 active Lodges, the same as last year. The number of members has increased from 530 to 556 by September 30, 1978.

Theosophical Publications.—*Revista Teosofica Cubana* is being published as usual. The contents are kept to the required

quality. A regular section is the publication of translations by Dr. Dana Cruz-Bustillo of *Self-Culture*, *The Secret of Self-Realization* and *Gayatri* by Dr. I. K. Taimni.

The Section's Economy.—National Bank regulations do not allow the export of dollars, and as in the preceding years it has not been possible for us to comply with our financial obligations to Adyar. Nevertheless reserves have been made according to the Rules and Regulations of the Theosophical Society.

Every effort has been made with enthusiasm arising from sincere theosophical ideas. Our projection had a goal: SERVICE. Impersonal service vivified through common action. Our collective work has been full of impersonal inspiration, represented by the principles valued by every lodge.

"By The Work Of The Master"

JUAN BAUTISTA RODRIGUEZ OLIVA,
General Secretary.

HUNGARY

Dissolved

FINLAND

The customary activities, public lectures, lodge meetings, the magazine in 10 issues a year and so on have continued more or less successfully. A historical event was the delightful visit of Miss Joy Mills, the International Vice-President, to our summer school at Kreivilä and to Helsinki. She gave nine talks and her stimulating contribution was highly appreciated. International contacts were cultivated also by three members who attended the European Congress in Durham.

Publications.—Reprints of *Esoteric Christianity* (Besant) and *The Other Side of Death* (Leadbeater) were possible with the support of donations and a grant of 5000.-mk from the Non-English Publications Fund. There was also a co-publication of *The Golden Precepts* (de Purucker) sponsored by the Point Loma Publication House. Elonpyörä Publication House (Blavatsky Lodge) has published *The Technique of the Spiritual Life* by Clara Codd. And the magazine

Elonpyörä (The Wheel of Life) is in its 20th year, being very popular.

John Sonck Home Fund owns now three flats letting them to elderly members and also grants from the fund enable old members to take part in the Summer School at Kreivilä summer home.

The membership now stands at 502 (increase of 13). One lodge in the eastern part of Finland has been dissolved. Interest in lodge work is declining in many cases. Spiritualism and other interests are distracting some members

from their lodges. But, on the other hand, new groups seem to be sprouting and non-members are contributing to the *Teosofi* magazine. It is reckoned as one of the approximately seven borderline science periodicals in our country, being perhaps the least sensational one of them and representing true Theosophy in the thicket of the pseudo-occultism of our time.

SIRKKA KIVILINNA,
General Secretary.

RUSSIA

Dissolved

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

Dissolved

SOUTHERN AFRICA

Our membership has shown a decrease but that is not to say that there is a decrease in interest in the teachings of Theosophy. There is a different approach, not the devotional one but a more scientific one, one of energy fields.

Some lodges have members who are well schooled in the so-called "Marshall Arts" and the Eastern I Ching and T'ai Chi Ch'uan and the Art of Stillness. They are also interested in the studies of health and harmony of the physical body by psychic meditation and biochemical alchemy.

During this year we welcomed back to S. Africa James and Annie Wycherley. James is introducing Mahayana Buddhism. People are attracted to this study re-

membering that our founders were also Buddhists.

In Rhodesia the Bulawayo Lodge is most active. Salisbury Lodge is not so active no doubt on account of the fuel problem and because driving by night is not safe due to terrorism.

In South Africa all the lodges are active. Durban and Port Elizabeth Lodges have gained in membership. We are sorry that East London Lodge lost one of the always active and energetic "twins", Mrs. Enid Marshall.

Convention 1978 was in Durban. Beautiful weather, a lovely garden, friendly people and the very interesting discussions did so much to make the Convention a success.

We had the pleasure to make two members of long standing and who have given so much to the Society in time and service Honorary Life Members: Mr. G. R. Heywood (Durban) and Miss F. J. Fraser (Johannesburg).

We have sent to all lodges the Healing Ritual sent to us from Adyar. However most lodges have already active healing groups.

We had an opportunity to visit the coastal lodges: Cape Town, George and Port Elizabeth. In Port Elizabeth we went to visit Mrs. Jose Quin, our oldest member, to find out how she was doing after a very serious operation. She celebrated her 95th birthday in hospital but now she is well again and an example to all members in the lodge. The meetings are still held at her home, as they have been for so many years. The Convention in 1979 will be in Port Elizabeth and it will be a great joy to her to be present.

We are looking forward to having our International President with us in 1979, even if only for a few weeks.

It is a privilege to live in this country, so little understood in the world, so much criticized, striving for harmony and peace. I hope that all the lodges in the world will send goodwill to our Section: Southern Africa. Remember Gladstone's saying: "The world is looking for the day when love of power will be replaced by the power of love."

So we have to go forward to meet the demands of the coming years of service, with goodwill, to bind us to one another and to all men; with mutual trust, because our true interests are similar; with unity, because our objects are the same; with joyous expectancy, for thus will we be meeting our own destiny and the destiny of the Society; with faith in the Great Ones Who have given Their blessing to our work; and with a firm resolve to be worthy of the responsibility that rests on each one of us.

ANNA M. G. BISCHOFF,
General Secretary.

SCOTLAND

The Scottish Section was fortunate in having Charles James, General Secretary of the Welsh Section, as its guest of honour at the annual convention in Edinburgh. He spoke on the theme "The Human Touch". His first talk entitled "On Being a Human Being" was an interesting discourse on the problems and potentialities for advancement of the human race. Unfortunately, due to a late start, it was not possible to provide the discussion time it merited.

After a splendid tea, the At Home took place at 7 p.m. During this Stuart Hepburn led a meditation group in Raja Yoga. In addition Tom Johnson gave

a demonstration of Kirlian photography, which has been studied by the Edinburgh Science Group for the past year.

On Sunday, Charles gave his second discourse entitled "On Being a Theosophist". This time there was plenty of time for discussion which continued for 50 minutes after the talk. Much of it was sparked off by a question on the possibility of help against violence by means of meditation. It was felt that this was perfectly possible by affecting the spiritual and mental atmosphere of the planet.

At the end of the discussion the Convention was closed with the invocation

that that which was valuable in it be digested by the members and radiated into the mental atmosphere of the world.

The Glasgow Lodge has had a somewhat topsy-turvy season being closed to non-members for most of the winter and spring due to building repairs. A full public lecture season was begun in June carrying on through the summer when most other lodges had closed. A great deal of effort has been expended by the members to get the building in full operation after fairly disastrous flood damage as well as serious structural complications.

Readers of the Nov./Dec. *Theosophical Journal* will notice that the Edinburgh Theosophical Research Group report, and the future work of the Theosophical Research Centre are on the parapsychological theme. I feel that this is part of the present day feature of making use of the scientific atmosphere of the age we live in. The Third Object is coming more to the fore—due to instruments being available—compared with the more philosophic approach of the past century of T.S. thought.

JAMES G. MITCHELL,
General Secretary.

SWITZERLAND

Public Activities.—In our premises in Geneva and Basle, public lectures have been given on a regular basis. These lectures were advertised in the local newspapers. In both places, there are libraries where the public can buy or borrow books.

Some lodges are open to non-members. An "open forum" has been created in Geneva for people who want to talk within the T. S. without an obligation for membership.

Activities reserved for members.—Most lodges work along traditional lines, i.e.,

the study of a classical theosophical book. Some lodges are experimenting with other approaches to Theosophy and new methods of group work. Two weekend seminars have been organised, one on the subject "Our Third Object", the other on the subject "Needs".

Staff.—The undersigned has taken over, as General Secretary, from Mr. Georges Tripet, on January 1st. Various other officers have been replaced.

RICCO STREIFF,
General Secretary.

BELGIUM

My third mandate expires today. My mission has slowly come to a standstill, but I pray that we shall find the number of people of good will to assure organization of our Society. I wish to present my respects to all who have permitted the branches, the study groups,

the bookshop, the library, the treasury, the Order of Service, to function as they should, in brief, to all of those who have contributed to feed the life of the group through the length of this year. The commencement of our activities after last year's general meeting was the

two-day visit of our International President, Mr. John Coats. Two particularly warm days for us before the Italian Summer School, in which several of our members participated.

Since October, everything is on the move again, as proved by the reports being presented. The commemorations and yearly entertainments have been observed in the usual tradition. The public conferences welcomed a dozen orators of high level. They brought to our local work streams of interest from the outside world, and contributed to the vitality of our Society. We have held thirty-five meetings, with an average attendance of thirty-six. At the same time, the country branches have been visited regularly.

A few positive realizations have also come to light: the printing of our three Objects on envelopes for programme distribution; the printing of the pamphlet relating to the World Campaign for Humaneness; the printing of our statutes and the distribution to all our members; the printing of a library catalogue; and finally the printing and distribution of bookmarks with the seal of the Theosophical Society; every member finds these extraordinarily successful.

I should like to thank every member of the council of administration who are the

heart of our Society, and I ask them to join me in finding other persons of good will, perhaps less prominent, but nevertheless led to service and brotherhood through work.

Before coming to a close, I am especially happy to say that the ideas of our Theosophical Society, which have been exclusive to us over so many years, are now spreading all over the world through psychology, parapsychology, yoga, science writings, and in other ways. The first steps to spirituality can begin to be foreseen. We may be hopeful for the future.

On leaving the office at the present time, I wish to thank all who have been by my side, to help and encourage me. From deep in my heart, thank you.

BERTHE NYSENS,
General Secretary.

SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT

The General Assembly of the 24th June has come to elect me General Secretary for Belgium, to succeed Miss Berthe Nyssens who for health and age reasons has resigned. The position of Assistant Secretary has been given to Mr. Charles Loste.

CHARLES LALLEMAND,
General Secretary.

INDONESIA

Annual Convention.—During the last quarter of 1977 and early this year we made preparations to hold our Annual Convention, the 15th Congress of The Theosophical Society in Indonesia (PERWATHIN). The venue would have been in Banyuwangi, East Java and the Congress would have taken place from 24 to 26 March, 1978.

Unfortunately the dates of holding the Congress coincided with those of the Nation's general elections, so in view of the activities during these election days we were requested by the authorities to postpone the Congress for a couple of months.

In the meantime plans were also made to hold the Theosophical Pacific Conference

in this same year. As it had been agreed that the Pacific Conference would be held in August 1978, there was no more time available to organize our Annual Convention, so that we were compelled to cancel this Convention and in its place we had to hold a referendum by correspondence. It was agreed by a majority of votes that the next Annual Convention would be held in the same place, Banyuwangi, in 1979.

Mrs. Radha Burnier's Visit.—In July Mrs. Radha Burnier (General Secretary of the Indian Section), who was on her way back to Adyar from Australia, made a visit to Jakarta, where she stayed a couple of days meeting E.S. members and leading the E.S. meeting, holding discussions and giving a public lecture on "The Beauty Within".

Another visitor from Adyar was Miss Annie Tjioe. She had been in Indonesia since June this year, especially to attend the Pacific Conference in Yogyakarta in August, to represent the Indian Section and to act as Chairman of Mr. John Coats' public lecture to be given at the Conference.

The Pacific Conference.—The Theosophical Pacific Conference (the 3rd) was held in Yogyakarta, Central Java, from 18th to 21st August, 1978. The venue was Hotel Ambarrukmo-Sheraton which is situated next to the old palace of the Sultan of Ambarrukmo. The theme of the Conference was "Unity in Diversity". Yogyakarta is situated near the Borobudur and Prambanan Temples, the Sultan's Palace Complex and other places of historical and cultural interest.

About 140 persons attended or took part in the Pacific Conference, of which about 40 persons were foreign participants (from Australia, India, Japan, Malaysia, New Zealand, Philippines, Singapore and the Netherlands) and 90 persons were

Indonesian members and sympathizers. The Conference was presided over by Mr. John B. S. Coats, the International President of The Theosophical Society.

Member countries taking part in the meetings of the Conference discussing the founding of The Indo-Pacific Theosophical Federation were:

Australia: headed by Mrs. Elaine Murdoch; *India:* Miss Annie Tjioe; *Indonesia:* Mr. R. S. Soejatno; *Japan:* Mrs. Emiko Tanaka; *New Zealand:* Mr. Neill M. Edgar; *Philippines:* Mrs. Cleo Z. Gregorio; *Singapore:* Miss Gertrude Weerekoon.

The discussions were held in three sessions, i.e., on the 19th, 20th and 21st August, 1978. During these sessions the following resolutions were adopted:

1. that the Federation shall be called The Indo-Pacific Theosophical Federation and shall be comprised of National Societies, Presidential Agencies, and Federations of Theosophical Lodges in the Indo-Pacific region (from Fiji in the East, Australia and New Zealand in the South, to Pakistan and Sri Lanka in the West);
2. that for the first period of office the following members shall be the Governing Officers of the Federation:

President: Mrs. Elaine Murdoch (Australia); *Vice-President:* Mr. S. Narayanan (Malaysia); *Secretary:* Mrs. Gladys McCartie (Australia); *Treasurer:* Dr. Hugh Murdoch (Australia); *Members:* Mrs. Cleo Z. Gregorio (Philippines); Mrs. Emiko Tanaka (Japan); Mr. Neill M. Edgar (New Zealand); Miss Annie Tjioe (India); Mr. R. S. Soejatno (Indonesia).

3. that the term of office shall be for a period of three years;
4. that for the time being the Annual Fee of Membership for each

member country shall be a minimum of 1% of the total annual dues of the member (Society) country;

5. that the next Indo-Pacific Conference shall be held in the Philippines (in Manila or Baguio) in 1981.

The Conference was a great success, everything went smoothly and in good order. Harmony prevailed over the whole Conference and everywhere during the Conference a real sense of Brotherhood and of belonging to each other could be felt.

Talks were given by:

Prof. Darji Darmodiharjo SH (as guest speaker) on behalf of the Minister of Education and Culture, Dr. Daud Jusuf, on "Pancasila", the Philosophy of Life of the Indonesian people and the State Principles of the Republic of Indonesia; Mr. John B. S. Coats, International President of The Theosophical Society,

on "The World is My Country"; Mr. S. Narayanan, Presidential Agent, T.S. in Malaysia, on "Brotherhood—The Need for an Integrated Vision"; Mrs. Elaine Murdoch, General Secretary, Australian Section, who spoke about "The Consciousness Revolution"; and Dra. (Mrs.) Parwati Soepangat, member of the Bandung Lodge (Indonesia) whose lecture was on "Unity in Diversity" (Binekha Tunggal Ika).

A dance performance depicting a fragment of Arjuna's life was given by the pupils of the Javanese Dance School of Yogyakarta, while every night after the conclusion of each session a greater performance, the famous "Ramayana" Ballet could be attended by everyone at the Prambanan Temple complex.

R. S. SOEJATNO
Presidential Agent.

BURMA

The year under report saw a steady progress in the spreading of Theosophy. Total membership of the Section stands at 127 with 10 new members and 2 deaths during the year, as against the previous year's 119.

Lodges.—The Burma Section consists of the following Lodges:

1. Olcott Lodge, Rangoon. 2. Youth Lodge, Rangoon. 3. Lotus Lodge, Mandalay. 4. Blavatsky Lodge, Maymyo. 5. Magwe Centre, Magwe. 6. Kyaukpyu Centre, Kyaukpyu.

Activities.—The Olcott Lodge, Rangoon, is the principal lodge of the Burmese Section. This year, under the able and energetic leadership of the President, Bro. U Kenneth Ba Sein, Hony. Treasurer, Bro. Daw Mya Tin and Hony. Librarian, Bro. U Tin Hlaing, we find more and more young educated people

interested in theosophical teachings. The wide range of activities—study classes, spoken English language classes during summer vacation, group meditations, group discussions and Saturday public lectures attracted many members and interested visitors.

In addition to the above activities, all the important days, such as Dr. Annie Besant's Birthday, Foundation Day, Christmas, White Lotus Day, Wesak Day and Asala Day were celebrated.

Youth Lodge, Rangoon.—This Lodge, resuscitated last year, is still more or less unable to stand by itself, for lack of enough active young Theosophists. We would urge younger members to take more interest in its activities.

Lotus Lodge, Mandalay.—Under the able leadership of Bro. U Htay Aung, as President, and new Executive Committee,

this lodge is now maintaining the standard of activities throughout the year. The lodge building, has been repaired and renovated. We wish Bro. U Htay Aung and members all success in the coming year.

Blavatsky Lodge.—Under the energetic and forward looking young Hony. Secretary, Bro. U Win Han, we are happy to report that this lodge has finally been revitalized. The building has been repaired and renovated, and there are now regular meetings and interesting discussions and lectures every week.

For the first time, after so many years, the lodge could now provide for both spiritual and physical developments. All the outstanding taxes have been settled, and Bro. U Win Han is now trying his utmost for exemption of taxes. We wish him all success.

Other Centres.—Due to lack of enough active members, the activities and effectiveness are mainly confined to individual study and meditation.

65th Annual Convention.—The 65th Annual Convention was held on Sunday, 18th December 1977, at the Section's Headquarters, at No. 102, 49th Street, Rangoon. It was well attended by members, their families and well wishers.

The Convention was presided over by Bro. U Htay Aung, President of the Lotus Lodge, Mandalay, who delivered an opening Convention lecture. It was followed by a Symposium on "Spiritual Development through Theosophy."

Finance.—An audited abstract of Receipts and Payments Account for the year ended 30th September 1978, shows an Opening Balance of Kyats 1988/26, and Closing Balance of Kyats 1536/39, plus Temporary Loan Receivable Kyats 1500, being Kyats 3036/39 resulting in a surplus of Kyats 1048/13, against last year's surplus of Kyats 3023/63.

Theosophical Order of Service.—Under the able leadership of Bro. U Kenneth Ba Sein, President of the Olcott Lodge, and assisted by energetic Bro. Daw Mya Tin, we started for the first time, spoken English classes during the summer vacation. These classes became very popular, so that by the end of the summer vacation, there were over one hundred students attending the classes, which had to be divided into two sections.

The Psychical Research Group, led by equally able and energetic Bro. U Tin Hlaing, this year introduced evening lectures and meditation groups. Every Wednesday and Friday evenings, from 6.30 p.m. to 8.30 p.m., lectures and interesting discussions took place, on classical and theosophical topics.

Every Saturday evening from 4.30 p.m. there were interesting lectures by members and by guest speakers. These are followed by healing spiritually, and outpouring of loving kindness and spiritual regeneration.

This group has for the past year, experimented with "faith healing" and "colour healing". People who are unable to come for various reasons, received loving kindness thought waves from a distance. During the year, 39 cases of personal problems, 115 cases of physical and mental ill health and 190 cases for spiritual regeneration were taken up. A progress report will be prepared.

For our members and their families, we have introduced a free centre for distribution of indigenous medicines.

This year we are proud and happy that we have at long last been able to replace the old and faded photographs of Madame H. P. Blavatsky and Col. Olcott with beautiful and life-like oil portraits. From the photograph presented to us from the Headquarters, Adyar, we have also executed a beautiful black and white portrait of our popular International President, Mr. J. B. S. Coats.

Book Depot.—During the year, we have not been able to procure books from abroad. The T.S. Book Depot could not do much useful work, owing to difficulties of import regulations. However, attempts are being made to translate the works of Madame H. P. Blavatsky such as *The Key to Theosophy* and *The Voice of the Silence*, and *The Mahatma Letters*.

Thingangyun Land.—This matter is still in the same stage as in the previous year.

International Headquarters' Representative.—We may mention that, in the last week of August, we had the honour and pleasure of meeting the representative from the International Headquarters at Adyar, Miss Annie Tjioe. She dropped in for a brief visit after attending the Indo-Pacific Conference. As her stay here was short, we could only arrange an informal get-together for our visitor during an afternoon members' tea party. She was also conducted on a brief tour of the historical sites at Rangoon and Pegu.

Obituary.—Life is a continuous progress towards death. This year, two aged members passed away.

Bro. J. S. Tanner joined the Theosophical Society very late in life; he was 82 years old when he became a member of the Olcott Lodge in 1976. He was a devout Christian and, according to him, he was searching for truth. He passed away suddenly of a heart attack on 14th May 1978. He was a perfect gentleman, and we missed him.

With a deep sense of great loss and regret, we have to mention that Bro. Daw Hnin May (Mrs. U Kyaw Sein), one of the well known and oldest members of the Olcott Lodge, died after a long illness, on the 21st July 1978. Bro. Daw

Hnin May joined the Olcott Lodge in 1948, she was a very staunch Theosophist, a good-standing Co-Mason, and during her 30 years of membership, served in various capacities both in the Olcott Lodge and with the Burmese Section. She was a devout Christian, charitable and considerate. Her kind graceful nature, and gentle wisdom have endeared her to us all.

Conclusion.—Brethren, as you all know during the year under review, we have been trying our best for a deeper understanding of theosophical principles and spiritual uplift. We have passed through many problems, and in our humble and quiet way, we have continued to keep the teachings of Theosophy aflame, through personal persuasions and in the radiation of thoughts of brotherly love and spiritual regeneration, so that peace, harmony and order may rule the whole world. Thus, like a mother who protects her only child, we should safe-guard theosophical teachings, and at the same time, cultivate a heart of unlimited love, tolerance and compassion towards all living beings.

Finally, may I remind you that, like you all, I shall pass this way but once. Therefore, any good that we can do or any kindness that we can show, to make things better for others, let us do it now. Let us not defer or neglect it, for we shall not pass this way again. We meet and we must part, for this is the Universal Law, and before we part, please accept my sincere appreciation and gratitude for the kind co-operation extended to me, by all the members during my term of office. Thank you.

MAUNG GYI,
General Secretary.

AUSTRIA

There is nothing especially remarkable to report in the activities during the year under report. The large groups at Graz and Vienna made some experiments of working in new ways, but still it is too early to decide whether any of them will prove to be successful. Membership keeps oscillating about the 240-mark, this year decreasing by 5 to 239 owing to fewer admissions and more deaths.

A special event was the visit of the International Vice-President, Miss Joy Mills, in June 1978. Miss Mills gave an inspiring 4 days' seminar on *Light on the Path* at Graz and a public lecture at Vienna.

As usual we had the Summer School at Pichl, this year presided over by Mrs. Claire Wyss and with Mrs. Madeleine Leslie-Smith as guest of honour.

Publishing work continued on a larger scale. Two German originals were published: a third edition of Helena Wegner's *Contributions to the History of the Wisdom-Religion*, a 470-page volume

containing extracts from *Isis*, *The Secret Doctrine* and the works of Dr. Franz Hartman, and a selection of the *Ephides-Poems*, poems of an esoteric character that are quite famous in the German-speaking area, but which were out of print for some decades. At length the German edition of *The Universal Flame* was delivered by the printers in England and came out in spring, with the German title *Sparks from the Cosmic Flame*.

The Vice-President of the Section Dr. (Mrs.) Grete Hansmann attended the European Congress and the meetings of the European Council at Durham. I attended the German Summer School at St. Martin, contributing a lecture and a study class. I was sorry not to be able to attend the meetings of the General Council and the Publishing Conference at Durham, but I had the opportunity to talk over many of the respective items with Miss Joy Mills during her stay at Graz.

NOBERT LAUPPERT,
General Secretary.

NORWAY

During the year under report the work of the lodges within the Norwegian Section has continued mostly on the same lines as before. However, there have been several highlights which have had an inspiring influence on our members, attracted many more and made them familiar with what Theosophy stands for.

Our lodge St. Svithun in Stavanger was visited by the General Secretary in October. In November Mr. Hasse Smerlov from Denmark visited our headquarters and gave a dynamic lecture.

His lecture was followed by a discussion next evening with questions and answers where practical Theosophy in modern life was the main topic.

In January, our Society was requested by the Norwegian Society for Psychic Study and Information to participate in a public meeting together with several other related societies in order to make the audience acquainted with the main aspects and principles of the respective movements. In the presence of more than 300 listeners the General Secretary gave a summary of

Theosophy and later on answered questions and introduced a display of theosophical literature.

After Christmas a new study and meditation group was started in Oslo, and a public lecture has been held here each month. The Adyar and White Lotus Days were celebrated by all lodges.

The library at the headquarters has been open for the public each Monday afternoon, and the sale of books has been substantial.

Our contact with the State Prison outside Oslo has continued, and upon new interest we have supplied our periodical and other theosophical literature.

The periodical *Teosofi i Norden*, published in cooperation with the Swedish

Section, as well as our domestic publication *Mini-TiN* appear 4 times annually and are appreciated by the members as a valuable contact. All Norwegian libraries are supplied with several copies of *Teosofi i Norden*. Also in cooperation with Sweden there has been published an excerpt of *The Universal Flame*, partly in Swedish and partly in Norwegian, with the title *Du er verden*.

The number of our new members is modest, and besides several of our members have left the country or passed over to the other side. Our present membership is 147.

HILDA FRASER,
General Secretary.

EGYPT

Dissolved

DENMARK

The past year has been a year of expansion and hard work for those members who have helped to arrange and set up our different activities which have mostly been centred in a few lodges and our headquarters in Copenhagen.

Every Tuesday and Saturday we have public lectures in the headquarters. A series of lectures on Tuesdays have the main title "Theosophy—A Philosophy of Life" and are presented by a few experienced lecturers and members. On Saturdays we have more mixed titles, and often we invite lecturers from related movements or members from the provinces to come and speak.

Our public library is well used by members as well as non-members, and

we have increasing book-sales as a result of a better organisation and more advertising.

Most of the 17 lodges have been active during the year and lodge members meet regularly. Of these 17 lodges one which has been founded this year, was called "The Circle of Light", but has later changed its name to "Shan Lodge".

One of the great events this year was a week's visit by Miss Ianthe Hoskins, who conducted a study-course on H.P.B.'s *The Secret Doctrine*.

Our convention took place in Aalborg from 21-23rd April, and members from all parts of the country took part in it. One of the most important points was the adoption of our new rules (statutes).

From 12-19 March we changed our centre into an exhibition hall for spiritual paintings. Members as well as nonmembers showed their paintings to many interested visitors.

As a whole the past year has been a very active one, and there has been a fine interchange among lodges as well as members. I have been touring the

country and other members have visited lodges in the provinces and vice versa. We look with optimism into the future and feel sure that even more people in our part of the world will benefit from the light that Theosophy may throw on their way.

HARDY BENNIS,
General Secretary.

IRELAND

The Theosophical Society in Ireland, founded in 1886 at Trinity by a number of students and their friends such as W. B. Yeats and George Russell (AE), is Ireland's oldest continuous group devoted to the study of comparative religion, developments in psychical research, and the brotherhood existing between men and nature.

Recent talks have centred about the study of Immanuel Velikovsky, Celtic history and prehistory, the Shroud of Turin, and Ways of Knowing (from the Hermetic scientists to Thomas Aquinas). An equally varied—and intensive—treatment will be offered during this coming season. Series will include Aspects of the Abrahamic Tradition (Judaism and Islam), Knowing in the later West (from

the Rosy Cross to the Golden Dawn) and talks on Satya Sai Baba, Ramana Maharshi, Newgrange and Sacred Geography, the Traditional Movement and René Guenon.

Anyone sharing any or all of these interests or possessing a knowledge of allied subjects is cordially invited to join our Monday night study group and participate in the open discussion which follows. No collections are taken, a bountiful selection of international magazines is available for general use, and our speakers are by no means necessarily members of the Society. We welcome exchange of information and courteous presentation of differences from any and all sides.

DOROTHY EMERSON,
General Secretary.

MEXICO

No Report

CANADA

The work of The Theosophical Society in Canada continues along much the same lines as in recent years. Opportunities for other activities are in plenty, but our

resources are limited and necessarily have to be allocated to administering the organization and to functions which, it is hoped, are of most benefit to the members

—and to a lesser extent, to the general public. Size is a major limiting factor: the relatively small membership is spread from the Atlantic to the Pacific, and visits to the various centres cannot be made with the frequency that might be wished.

In such a situation communications are obviously of the utmost importance. In this regard, a growing major concern is the postal service, which provides the main link between the members and the Society. Our expenditures for postage have increased dramatically during the past decade, and this could be accepted save that in the same period the mails have become increasingly slower and far less dependable. We share this problem with all other organizations, and like them can only hope that the situation will deteriorate no further.

The principal activity of The Theosophical Society in Canada as a national body is the publication of its magazine, *The Canadian Theosophist*, the sixtieth volume of which will commence next March. Since its inception, the magazine has striven to maintain an editorial standard in keeping with the objective of the Society's founders, and this quality seems to be appreciated by the subscribers, a large proportion of whom are outside Canada. The future of the magazine depends on its contributors, who are earnestly sought among the serious students of the theosophical philosophy. Two annual volumes of the magazine are bound together and provided free on request to Canadian university libraries.

During the year there was no activity in the Society's ongoing programme of placing work by H. P. Blavatsky in Canadian university libraries. Presumably this programme will remain dormant until the next volume in the *H. P. Blavatsky Collected Writings* series is published.

As an experiment, the T. S. in Canada placed a small advertisement in the classi-

fied section of the national magazine, *Saturday Night*. At the time of preparing this report, its appearance in eight consecutive issues had produced over sixty requests for a complimentary copy of *The Canadian Theosophist*. In turn, these led to further requests for information about Theosophy and the Theosophical Society, and for theosophical publishers' catalogues. Two more advertisements will appear, and it is hoped that new subscribers will be introduced to the magazine through this medium.

The Theosophical Society in Canada is free of debt while managing to support its modest programme of activities. It is of interest to note that seventy per cent of our income derives from donations and from income largely earned on the generous bequests of former members and magazine subscribers. Donations are never solicited. The reason is that it is hoped that members will first support their Lodges to the best of their ability, because the relative cost of keeping a local centre open and active can be quite high.

As in past years, business trips enabled the General Secretary to visit several centres. These included all-too-brief stopovers in Vancouver, Edmonton, Toronto and Ottawa. A particularly happy occasion was in late Spring, 1978, when an opportunity arose to meet with several members who live in the beautiful Annapolis Valley area of Nova Scotia.

Another trip, in October, 1977, made it possible to renew contacts with the General Secretaries of the English Section, Miss Ianthe Hoskins, in London; and of the Welsh Section, Mr. Charles James, in Cardiff, Wales.

In July, 1978, the General Secretary was guest of the American Section at the Annual Convention and Summer School of the T.S. in America, held at Lake Geneva, Wisconsin. On this occasion, valuable informal discussions were

held with International Secretary Dr. Jean Raymond; the President of the T. S. in America, Mrs. Dora Kunz; and with former International Vice-President, James S. Perkins.

Close ties were maintained between the General Secretary and the co-ordinator (formerly titled Secretary) of the Canadian Federation, T.S. As well as through correspondence, these included personal discussions in Calgary in February and at Lake Geneva during the American Convention.

Varying degrees of activity are reported

from Canadian Lodges. A good deal of innovation is taking place in some of the local centres in an attempt to make their programme more effective. Particularly encouraging is the tendency towards more team effort in Lodge projects.

Distances in Canada prevent a proper Annual Convention of members, but the Annual Meetings, which are held in different centres at least serve to bring regional representatives together once a year.

TED G. DAVY,
General Secretary.

ARGENTINA

Activities for the public and F.T.S. were carried on in Asunción, Paraguay, where there is a Lodge attached to the Argentine Section. Brother Luis Spairani was the guest speaker, travelling together with some other Argentine members.

Among the Lodges which keep the work alive in distant parts of the country Lodge "Annie Besant," from San Rafael, province of Mendoza, and Lodge "Ananda", from La Plata, province of Buenos Aires should be mentioned. Both of them have been inviting speakers from different centres, holding private and public activities.

There are places where several Lodges work in the same premises. This is the case in Buenos Aires and Rosario, where weekly activities are held for the public, plus the usual private Lodge meetings. People coming in constantly make these premises small and inadequate. That is why the Lodges in Rosario decided to remodel the building, adding rooms for a library and a bookshop and widening the room for public activities.

Summer School, which was held during

April 1st-8th, had an attendance of 180 members from different parts of the country and also from Brazil, Bolivia, Chile, Central America, Paraguay and Uruguay. The group from Brazil was presided over by the General Secretary, Mr. Murillo Nunes de Azevedo. Our Guest Speaker was Miss Joy Mills, the International Vice-President, who delivered a series of lectures on "Fundamental Concepts of Meditation", which were very valuable to all. She also took part in several meetings, such as the ones held by the Inter-American Federation Committee and the Federation of Young Theosophists. The subject for study was: "The T.S., perspectives, opportunities and possibilities for the next twenty-two years". It was discussed in depth by the different teams.

This year, there are plans of revising the National By-Laws, so as to make them more in accordance with the present needs.

JUAN B. CASSIBBA,
General Secretary.

CHILE

Work was pursued at the Chilean Section of the T.S. in spite of the many difficulties we had to pass through since January of this year. Thanks to the help which is always provided in such cases, we could overcome those difficult moments. The members of the 6 branches of which this Section is composed, are continuing to meet normally, while in one of the branches which was much affected being composed of younger members, its brothers faithful to our teachings combined their meetings with another branch.

1. The workshops carried on their study of Theosophy, giving a chance to those present to absorb our teachings. Theosophy, with its hierarchy was thus exposed to the public.

2. In the city of Santiago, a Theosophical Community group has been firmly established, and those that are present are given the chance to ask questions and voice their fears and doubts. Sympathisers are helped and already there are many of these who are interested to become members. This group meets Saturday afternoons and the majority amongst them are young, and the group is led by a youth, under the advice of an older member.

3. The group of the Theosophical Order of Service is doing its work satisfactorily and additionally carrying polishes and provisions to needy institutions.

4. The public lectures are held Saturdays at 7 p.m. in the T. S. premises of Santiago and Valparaiso. Subjects are discussed which are of interest to the public, and these lectures are announced through press and radio.

5. In like manner, the libraries continue to diffuse Theosophy through their publications.

6. The sale of books by our authors

as well as the official magazines are considerable.

7. At the beginning of the year, a Natural Health Farm of great repute granted a scholarship to the T.S., so that one of its members could attend the courses of natural living which are conducted by nature cure doctors; these courses are very expensive, but to the Society they were offered free. We chose brother Mauricio Froimovich to go and live near the institution which is situated on the outskirts of the capital. It has already met with success, as recently a graduate doctor from the university came to the Society to give a lecture, which was attended by a large public, sent by the salon of Santiago (the villa of natural living).

8. The meetings of the San Miguel Centre continue.

9. Brother Alfredo Salim Wehbe was recently in Chile, giving lectures in both cities, with enormous success, as our brother is an excellent expounder. We are very grateful for his collaboration.

10. During this period we have registered 10 new members and 2 renewals. Also recently the Blavatsky Lodge which was affiliated directly to Adyar, has requested its reintegration into the Chilean Section, and the Directive Committee is now studying the precedents.

11. Correspondence to and from other Sections has been numerous and cordial with invitations to their respective conventions and congresses. Several Chilean members have attended these, as representatives of the Section.

12. In the head office situated in Santiago, the second storey is being repaired and painted but an area has been left for reception, where the library is installed. The San Miguel group and the Theosophical Order of Service are furthermore

organising social reunions each month with the help of non-members.

13. During this period 9 meetings of the Directive Committee were held with the help of the managers, who took important decisions for the better development of the Section. On 21st January, the President called an extraordinary general meeting as, in conformity with the statutes, she had completed her maximum length of time as president, being 30 months. According to the order of the Chilean Government, no public voting is permitted, therefore every lodge was requested privately that they give their opinion and

wish for the nomination of the new president. This brought the following result: 3 lodges in favour of re-election, one abstention and two for Sister Georgina Sepulveda; moreover 5 managers voted for re-election and one for Georgina Sepulveda. Sister Raquel E. de Modrow was re-elected for a new term with 9 additional votes in her favour. The ordinary convention ended the 23rd of July in the presence of Brother Luis Spairani as representative of the International President.

RAQUEL E. DE MODROW,
General Secretary.

BRAZIL

General Considerations.—The work of the T.S. in Brazil is in its 58th year, and has been characterized by a systematic development of its activities in the various fields of action. The usual alterations in the chart did not affect the work.

There existed in Brazil in July 15, 1978, 39 lodges and 972 members.

There was a decrease of 30 members compared to the last year (—3%) without affecting the general rhythm of activities. The present characteristic is the revitalization of the members of the S.T. and we see that 20% of the new members are young people, which is very promising for an organization as ours in its 103rd year.

Important Events: (1) *The visit of Miss Joy Mills to Brazil.*—who remained among us from April 11 to 17th, 1978 giving public and private lectures in Rio de Janeiro, Brasília and São Paulo.

(2) *Inter-American Theosophical Convention.*—This Convention took place at the Raja Centre in São Paulo with the presence of brothers from Argentine,

Uruguay, Central America and Brazil, to the total of 132 people. The subject was "Theosophy and its Renovation Power". On this occasion the accounts of the period 1976-1977 were approved and the idea of a Publishing House for theosophical books in Spanish was suggested.

(3) *Summer School in Argentina.*—A delegation of 30 Brazilian members was present in Cordoba, Argentina. This event contributed to the best union of the Pan American Sections and there was founded the basis for the Theosophical Publishing House.

Intensification of the Work of the T.O.S.—The Theosophical Order of Service showed increased work in various branches of activities. Due to statutory reasons of the T.S., which considers the T.O.S. an integral part of T.S. in Brazil, a commission was named for study and the Administrative Council considered an amendment of the Regulations of the actual Department of the T.O.S. This amendment was adopted and included

in the Regulations of the T.S. The amendment was submitted to the National Council for final approval.

Activities in the Study of Science and Theosophy.—According to the International Convention in Adyar in 1975 and the manifested interest in science by young people in Brazil who wanted to form a group of university people and students, a commission was named to amplify the Cultural Department of the T.S. adapting it to the new activities in the science area. The Administrative Council studied the problem and approved it. The subject will be submitted to the National Council for final deliberation.

Vice-President.—Brother José Hermogenes resigned due to private reasons and was replaced by Brother Luis Calijiuri, in accordance with our Statutes.

Administration.—All the meetings of the Administrative Council have taken place. Due to the passing away of our beloved Brother Manuel Pinto Moreira Filho, Fausto Mazzi was named First Secretary and Helena Lobo Mazzi Second Secretary. Brother Gustavo Alberto Lima Pinto who during a certain period occupied the First Secretariat, gave up for personal reasons. The Second Secretary became the chief of the Cultural and Science Department.

Publications.—The following books have been published by the Annie Besant Group: I. K. Taimni—*The Secret of Self-Realization*; I. K. Taimni—*Self-Realization through Love*. The following books are in preparation: *Self-Culture*, *Shiva Sutra* and *Science of Yoga* all by I. K. Taimni.

Several books have been edited in agreement with the following Publishers: Pensamento Publishers: C. W. Leadbeater: *The Hidden Side of Things*, *Glimpses of Masonic History*, *The Hidden Side in Free-Masonry*, *The Masters and the Path*; Annie Besant: *Esoteric Christianity*, *The Etheric Double*. Record Publisher: *Ancient Wisdom* by Annie Besant.

The Theosophist.—Its quarterly publication has been maintained and distributed to all members. The actual issue is of 1,100 and the best articles have been selected by an Editorial Commission.

Purchase of Seat.—A room in the centre of the city has been bought in Porto Alegre, in the name of the T.S. with the usufruct of the Porto Alegre Lodges. This was due to the great effort and dedication of brothers from the Dharma Lodge.

Deaths.—We report with great regret the passing away of our brothers Manuel Pinto Moreira Filho, Martiniano C. Parolin and Eduardo Dutra who worked hard for the development of Theosophy in Brazil and to them goes our everlasting gratitude.

Commemorations Performed.—All normal commemorations of the T.S. programme have been performed.

Gratitude.—We are grateful to our brothers in the Directorship, the Administrative and National Councils and others who cooperated with the present administration. We also gave our thanks to all members in Brazil who in every manner contributed to the development of the T.S. in Brazil.

MURILLO NUNES DE AZEVEDO,
General Secretary.

BULGARIA

Dissolved

ICELAND

No Report

SPAIN

Since our legalisation, the Theosophical Society in Spain, in its private and public activities, keeps growing fast.

Two new branches have been created, one in Bilbao, another in Mollerusa (Lerida area). By now there are in Spain ten branches working regularly.

Two special extra events this year have taken place. The first one has been the meeting of the two Iberic Sections, Portuguese and Spanish, in June in Lisbon, in the "Jornadas Ibericas de Teosofia", which lasted three whole days, which has linked the two Sections into a very promising relationship regarding future activities.

The other event has been the Palma de Mallorca Week in the first week of September, with a good attendance from Portuguese and Spanish people, with a public lecture to an audience of about 150 people, mostly young. Since that week, widely announced in the local press, the private theosophical meetings in Palma

have tripled their attendance. There is hope for a future branch there.

Out of the ten Branches we have, seven will meet next month at Sabadell, in the branch premises, to coordinate future work. We are going to issue a monthly paper, containing "On the Watch Tower" from *The Theosophist*, and some other spiritual articles, in order to acquaint our members with the Headquarters.

From 250 we have already increased our order to 350 copies of the Inter-American Bulletin, due to the increase of our members.

We are well provided with Spanish theosophical literature, which we receive from America. Also we are printing in Barcelona, with permission from the American Federation, 5000 copies of *The Masters and the Path*, which will well suit the need for something genuine in the guidance towards the proper Path.

S. TORRA PALA,
Presidential Agent.

PORTUGAL

The general pattern of our work during the year under review remained practically the same as in the last Report.

We maintained the usual activities. We have celebrated all the great theosophical events such as Founders Day and White Lotus Day. We had public meetings at the Headquarters almost every week.

Among the chief lectures, we must refer to the following: "The Gnosis", by Dr. Carlos Silva; "Acupuncture and the Third Object of the T.S." and "Evolution of Life and Form", by Dr. Elsa Ferreira da Costa; "Hell", by Mr. José Correia.

There was a series of symposia about "Theosophists and Mystics down the

Centuries", directed by Mr. Victor Martini. It was a very interesting work, attended by many young people. There were also other symposia about "Buddhism" and also one on Dr. Taimni's book *Self Culture*. The President of the Branch Amor Verdade e Beleza (from Algarve, in the South of the country) came to Lisbon to lecture on Founders Day, White Lotus Day and in other meetings.

During the year, as usual, Dr. Cesina Bermudes presented in the meetings of her Branch (Annie Besant), in Portuguese, the lectures given at the Summer School, this time in Tremezzo, Italy.

This year was a very good one concerning the opportunity to meet members of other Sections who came to visit our Section. So, in February, we received the visit of Mrs. Heleen Raven from St. Michael's Centre (Huizen), who gave a very interesting lecture to the members on Adyar Day, and had the opportunity to speak also to the members of Oporto and of Evora. Later in June, a group of Theosophists from Spain joined us in an "Iberian Week", which was a very high manifestation of Fraternity. It was rather a small Summer School, with lectures, symposia, excursions, etc. I must refer to the lectures given by Mr. Torra Pala and Mr. E. Olivares, from Spain, and lectures by Dr. Carlos Silva and Dr. Elsa Ferreira da Costa, from Portugal, besides small talks by the signer and other members, such as Dr. Cesina Bermudes.

Also in June we were very lucky to have the visit of our International Vice-President, Miss Joy Mills, who led a Seminar on Meditation, which had a very large attendance.

In July we received the visit of a Theosophist from France, Mrr. Pearson-Laroute, who gave a series of lectures at the Headquarters and also in the branches of Evora and Algarve, always followed by discussion.

We closed the activities before the holidays in July, with a symposium "Abstracts of the Theosophical Year".

Concerning the Branches, we must report that our Section kept the same number (13), as in the last Report, but one of them, in the North, is dormant and another is awaiting reorganisation.

Branches Koot-Hoomi and Lotus Branco (presidents of which are Dr. Lia Carmo and the signer of this Report), continue working together and their programme for the next theosophical term will be the continuation of the study of Dr. Taimni's work *Self Culture*, which is being translated by our Sister Lia Carmo.

The signer lead a course for beginners called "First Steps in Theosophy". After holidays it will continue, this year on *The Key to Theosophy*.

Regarding international theosophical gatherings, some of our members (such as the signer) attended the International Week at Huizen and the European Congress in Durham. Others joined our Spanish Brothers, in September, in Palma de Majorca, where they organised a theosophical meeting.

Concerning membership, we had 291 on the 1st October 1977 and at present we have 314: 27 new members; 1 death and 3 lapsings.

In conclusion, we can say that we carry on with renewed strength in spreading Fraternity to all Humanity.

MARIA G. NOBRE SANTOS,
General Secretary.

WALES

Our report for the year ending 30th September 1978 has a note of sadness in that we have to report a serious drop in membership due to the demise shortly after our last report of the Anglesey Lodge where only one member has remained with the Society. In addition we have lost several other members through death, and the number lapsed is unusually high.

One has to accept what cannot be changed. The young people who comprised Anglesey Lodge claim the right to leave and to do what they consider

to be the next thing in their lives. It does not mean that they have joined some other organisation, it is simply that they have taken what they wished from Theosophy.

The remainder of the work of the Welsh Section goes on as hard as ever, with regular lectures and study groups, and it is hoped that one day in the future our numbers will once again take an upward trend.

CHARLES JAMES,
General Secretary.

POLAND

Dissolved

URUGUAY

During the last period the Uruguayan Section worked steadily and regularly.

Our old library was moved to our headquarters in J. Barrios Amorin 1085 last July. The reason to leave the hall of Ave. 18 de Julio, where our Society had its meetings for many years, was that the new renting law in force in Uruguay did not allow us to continue leasing the hall. In view of the situation the Directive Council resolved to move the library to our own premises spontaneously. The librarian, Mrs. P. de Trjka, with some volunteers worked hard to re-organise the library in the new hall with good results.

Lodges.—These have had weekly meetings during the whole year, studying classic books on Theosophy, besides basic courses on Theosophy for new members and visitors. The General Secretary assumed

the direction of Lodge Elevacion during this year owing to the absence of the directive members of same, so this lodge is being restructured with the admission of new members and visitors. There were groups of members who offered radio programmes on Theosophy once a week. Members of Uruguay attended the Summer School in Argentina in April.

In the general meeting of the General Council of F.T.I. in Centro Raja, São Paulo, Brasil, in January last, Mr. Joaquin Blumenfeld, former General Secretary of Uruguay, was the representative of our Section.

Membership.—31 new members and 7 re-admissions and 3 deaths during this period. Total membership now is 171.

Our section keeps close contact with the authorities of F.T.I. and we strongly approved the plan to create a new

Theosophical Publishing House in Latin America to publish theosophical books.

Visitors.—Last November Mr. Luis Spairani, President of F.T.I., gave lectures in our headquarters for members and visitors. Also Mr. V. Fiumano of Argentina gave some public talks to a audience.

The Uruguay Section invited the Vice-President, Miss Joy Mills, to spend some days with us during her trip to Argentina. Unfortunately, she couldn't come owing to unforeseen causes. We hope Miss Mills may visit us in her next tour to South America.

The Directive Council held meetings monthly taking care of all matters concerning our Society.

We celebrated all great theosophical events, Foundation Day, Adyar Day, White Lotus Day as well as 7th January, 53rd anniversary of the official foundation of our Society in Uruguay.

Two plans of new By-Laws have been produced. They will be proposed to a general Extraordinary Meeting specially called to consider them for 20th November, 1978. The one approved will be sent to Adyar before submitting it to Government Offices for approval.

We received the first issue of *Phoenix* a fine magazine with most interesting material. Some few members who know English are interested in reading it.

Other Groups.—The Young Theosophists are working to organize an international camp in a seaside resort 100 kms. away from Montevideo to be held on 8th, 9th and 10th December, 1978.

Our Annual Convention was held on 26th August last with the attendance of representatives of ten lodges of our Section.

JUSTO V. DE LA VEGA,
General Secretary.

PUERTO RICO

The Puerto Rican Section had a slight increase in the number of members. The Headquarters building was remodeled with the cooperation and efforts of the members.

Radio talks are given every Sunday in the morning and four television programmes have been transmitted Island wide.

We started vegetarian dinners served

every Saturday night at the Headquarters with the purpose of promoting vegetarianism.

We have study groups every Tuesday and Thursday evening and Lodge meetings every Wednesday and Sundays.

The attendance at the meetings has increased.

RENÉE FORCE,
General Secretary.

RUMANIA

Dissolved

YUGOSLAVIA

Annual Report.—The statistics of the Yugoslav National Society for the twelve months 1st October 1977 to 30th September 1978 showed an increase of 12 members to 113.

The number of branches is five at present.

The first and most important news I have to report is that the Republic Secretariat of internal affairs of the Socialist Republic of Croatia has issued on 19th September 1978 the Decision by which the Theosophical Society in Yugoslavia has been registered in the Register of citizens' associations at the Republic Secretariat under the Number 465 and the sphere of activity on the territory of SFR Yugoslavia has been approved. The Statutes of the Theosophical Society in SFR Yugoslavia which were passed at the Annual Convention on 8th May 1976 in Zagreb have been certified.

I stayed 10 days on the Krk Island in October and was the guest of the Ganymed institute from Frankfurt a/M Germany. This group of friends was interested to hear something of the theosophical teachings. On my way back I stopped in Rijeka and opened the activity of the Branch Ljubav for the year ahead. Two other members of our Section and I attended the Summer School in Pichl. There were altogether nine members of our Section present. The highlight of my theosophical work this year was the visit to the European Congress 10-17 August 1978. I attended all the meetings of the General Council at Grey College, Durham, England.

During the year under report we held the annual convention on 7th May 1978, and the special convention on 9th September 1978, convened in connection with the registration of our Society.

Our summer school took place in Gozd Martuljek from 17th to 24th July. Theme of the School was: "Know Thyself", and the main study was *Self Culture* by I. K. Taimni. At noon we regularly read some paragraphs from Taimni's book *Gayatri* and listened to the tape which was recorded last year when our President recited the *Gayatri*. There were altogether about 40 present.

Our Section has secured release of the Adyar dues as well as the dues of the European Federation.

We have for our Branch Služenje in Ljubljana secured premises where the conventions can be held, thanks to one of our members, Anica Cuderman, who is a really faithful member of our National Society.

I have also to report that we had the rare pleasure of listening to Mr. Will Ross who visited our Branch Služenje, and gave a talk on "Tyranny of Views"

Last I wish to mention the untiring work and the dedication to the theosophical ideas of all the presidents of our five lodges who keep meetings going regularly each week or fortnight. There are many members working on translations and typing of the translated material and so we have many a booklet as well as brochures and lectures translated into our language. Our magazine *Teozof* appears twice yearly, and its subjects are now attentively reviewed by the chief editor in order that nothing may appear in the magazine that is not in accordance with theosophical teachings.

During the next three months I have still to visit the branches in Beograd and Ljubljana and to hold a session of the Executive Committee.

MILA GRUBACEVIC,
General Secretary.

SRI LANKA

Handicap Period.—Intense communal clashes soon after the July elections 1977, constant curfews and the ban on meetings promoted more cottage meetings.

The Transitions of National Lecturer Bro. Framroze Rustomjee and of Her Holiness Mathaji Satchidananda on the eve of forming a lodge in Trincomalee left us deprived of two great Theosophists.

Resignations.—Brothers M. Canagaratnam and Melodie de Silva after valuable service tendered resignations from their offices and Brothers G. J. R. Samarasinghed and Theja Gunawardhana were elected National Treasurer and National Secretary respectively.

National Headquarters Meetings.—Dr. J. Deerasakera, Prof. in Buddhism, Rev. Dr. Aloysius Pieris, an authority on Pali and Buddhism of the Catholic Research Centre, Dr. H. S. Cooray, Lecturer in Mahayana, gave talks in the home of National President, Bro. Rustomjee, and at Peterson Lane, Colombo 6.

Links with Adyar.—Bro. Seetha Neelakantan addressed T.S. members on "Man, Mystery and Miracle" and a reception was given to her by Bro. Rustomjee.

Besant Lodge.—Bro. Seetha Neelakantan addressed the members of Lotus, Lanka and Satyamarga (who due to a depleted membership join Besant meetings), at the residence of the Besant Lodge Secretary on "The Meaning of Theosophy". The theme selected for deep study for 1977 was "Theosophy and other Disciplines." Speakers at four meetings gave the Christian, Buddhist, Hindu and Zoroastrian points of view.

Cottage Meetings.—Twenty meetings for the period under review (with silent meditation following) discussed "The True Nature of Man," "Rebirth," "Meditation," "The Transforming Power

of Love," "Building Communal Harmony," and "Involvement with Welfare Projects."

Order of Service.—Instead of duplicating welfare work, Besant Lodge members offered their services to The Canal Dwellers Welfare Project organized by Rev. Father M. Catalano who was helpful in getting for us the Jesuit Retreat House in Lewella, Kandy for the several week-end Theosophical Study Camps.

Study Camps

17-2-78—19-2-78.—"Man Know Thyself," Speakers were Bro. T. Rustomjee (Zoroastrian), Rev. Father Catalano (Biblical understanding), Bro. G. Motts (a new Theosophist's outlook), Dr. A. Kanagaral (Hindu), Rev. Kenneth Fernando (Christian), Bro. Theja Gunawardhana (Theosophical, covering Islam), Bro. Murugesu (Sri Aurobindo). Twenty-eight participants shared each other's prayer experiences every morning. Mass was attended by all groups.

28-5-78 (Inter-religious consultation at Catholic-Pali Research Centre, Kelaniya), "Unity of Being in Relation to Man, Universe and Society," Speakers Dr. D. Perera, FRCS, (Buddhist), Mrs. S. Kalyanasunderam, LL.B., (Hindu), Bro. Rustomjee (Zoroastrian), Bro. Theja Gunawardhana (Islam). Rev. Father Catalano, and Bro. Theja Gunawardhana jointly compared Teilhard de Chardin's and Sri Aurobindo's views on this subject. 35 attended the whole day's proceedings. 25.6.78 Study Camp on "Role of Man in the World, Nation and Society" at Kalvath Shan Sufi Centre, Wattala, National President presiding. Speakers: Bro. W. M. O. Perera (Zen Buddhist point of view), Bro. Fuard Uduman (Sufi point of view) Theja Gunawardhana (Theosophical). 32

participants from Besant, Lanka, Satya Marga Lodges and many others interested in Theosophy attended. Mount Lodge full membership joined in.

30-7-78 Study camp on Origin and Destiny of Man at the same venue, Wattala. Speakers: Dr. L. P. N. Perera Ph. D., Prof. of Buddhism, University (Buddhist), Bro. M. Z. Akbar (Islam), Rev. Father Mervyn Fernando, O.M., and Bro. Theja Gunawardhana (Teilhard de Chardin). Joint lodge participation 36. **27.8.78** Study camp Meditational and Living Path in Religion, Speakers: Bro. Theja Gunawardhana (Christian, Mahayana and Zen points of view—their similarity), Bro. Ranji Hubert (Hindu), Bro. H. Kumararatne (Buddhist), 25 participants including several sisters and nuns from Catholic institutions. **24.9.78** Human Liberation—What does it mean? Study Camp, Colombo: Dr. L. P. N. Perera (Buddhist), Bro. Lakshman Iyer, Lecturer, (Hindu), Bro. Theja Gunawardhana (Theosophical and Kabbala teachings); 36 participants from all lodges and others interested.

Publications.—Besant Lodge, to keep alive the interest of other lodges and well wishers, published proceedings of study camps and cottage meetings.

Mount Lodge.—This new lodge meets regularly every Saturday in Mount Lavinia. The National President, Bro. Theja Gunawardhana, and Besant Lodge members regularly attend their meetings. This is a very interested group covering all sections of society.

Secret Doctrine Studies.—Every Monday about 25 members from various Lodges and prospective members study *The Secret Doctrine*. The classes are conducted by Bro. Theja Gunawardhana in her home.

Lotus Lodge.—Due to the ill-health of Bros. Eleanor Perera and Hilda Rovers, and their moving to Colombo from Veyangoda, regular meetings have not been held. But theosophical books are circulated among the membership and Bro. Mohammed Cassim contributed regularly to international magazines.

Shanthi Marga Lodge of Galle which translated *At the Feet of the Master* into Sinhalese was not been able to meet regularly but continued its monthly meditation group sessions. In September it resumed regular 3-weekly meetings, with extracts from theosophical leaders translated into Sinhala.

Satyamarga and Lanka Lodges do not meet but attend all Besant Lodge meetings.

Sanathana Lodge in Kandy for the same reason joins all study camps held in Kandy. The small library established in the home of a member serves to provide reading material for the members.

Olcott Day was celebrated jointly by the American Embassy, National T.S. and Buddhist T.S. by the giving of alms to the Buddhist clergy. The laying of wreaths at the memorial statue of Col. Olcott as done annually took place.

Fund Raising.—The depleted funds of the National T.S. were built up by the efforts of Bro. Melodie de Silva at a fund raising musical entertainment.

Adyar Convention.—Bro. Theja Gunawardhana participated in the Annual Convention at Adyar with a contribution towards the Theme "Discovery and Integration" stressing the Five Initiations of Islam and Christianity.

THEJA GUNAWARDHANA,
National Secretary.

GREECE

The Greek Section of the Theosophical Society celebrates the 50 years of its establishment. It has 256 members now. There are four lodges in Athens and one in Salonica. The work in the lodges is carried out briskly with the participation of members and visitors.

In September 1977 we had the great pleasure of having the International President of the Theosophical Society, Mr. John Coats, with us for a few days, and last August the visit of Dr. Jean Raymond. Our Magazine, *Illis*, is in its 23rd year of publication and it is

published every two months in 3,700 copies.

We have published the following books: A. Besant, *The Inner Life*; Vivekananda, *Karma Yoga*. Also we have published the book of the General Secretary of the Greek Theosophical Society called *The Steps of Philosophy*. The book of H.P.B., *The Key to Theosophy*, has been republished this year. *The Voice of the Silence* is being printed now.

C. MELISSAROPOULOS,
General Secretary.

CENTRAL AMERICA

The Section of Central America and Panama of the T.S. consists at present of 12 lodges and 189 active members. The lodges are as follows:

Guatemala: Kuthumi—Gnosis—Arca del Cordero Blanco

El Salvador: Teotl—Blavatsky

Nicaragua: Pratibha—Blavatsky

Costa Rica: Virya—Shakti—Dharma—K. H.

Panama: Luz.

The Tegucigalpa Lodge of Honduras, although having 7 active members, has been functioning very poorly for the past several years and this year has decided to suspend activities, but the members have not asked for the cancellation of their lodge.

The Kuthumi Lodge of Guatemala also suspended its activities, but in the end the members decided to resume the meetings again regularly as of next month.

The Sadhana Lodge of Costa Rica asked for its cancellation. It has not

returned its Constituent Charter, although it has been asked to do so.

The K. H. Lodge of Costa Rica already requested the Charter from headquarters, but still has not received it.

The Blavatsky and Pratibha lodges of Nicaragua, in spite of serious disturbances of a political nature which are plaguing that country, have continued regularly with their meetings. Brother Benvenuto Martinex of the Pratibha Lodge gave 3 public lectures on theosophical subjects, which were received with much interest.

In Alajuela, Costa Rica, the K. H. Lodge gave various beneficial theosophical lectures on meditation and religion.

The Shakti Lodge of Costa Rica gave 11 lectures on meditation and held a round table conference every Tuesday. At the beginning of this year, this lodge gave a basic course on Theosophy and celebrated theosophical working days on the 23rd, 24th and 25th of March.

Sister Joy Mills, Vice-President of the T. S., visited the lodges of Costa Rica, El Salvador and Guatemala in April this year, giving lectures which were immensely appreciated.

The lodges Teotl and Blavatsky of El Salvador are preparing the 9th Theosophical Convention which will be celebrated in the city of San Salvador from 15th to 18th November next, at which time the change of General Secretary will take place, in compliance with the rotating character of General Secretary. The new General Secretary will be Brother Julio Cesar Guillen, member of the Teotl Lodge.

The Luz Lodge of Panama, although for the moment not counting more than 4 active members, has 16 members who were active last year, but they are still to pay their dues for reasons of economic order. They are meeting regularly and, in spite of certain difficulties, are working with love and devotion.

All lodges have regularly conducted their study sessions and have commemorated the theosophical festivities with great devotion.

The number of new members that were registered was 11.

In general, the lodges are working in a continuous and regular way, always keeping in mind the Theosophical Ideal and always urging all their members—sometimes under politically difficult circumstances—to attend the meetings at their lodges, and to uphold and diffuse the Light of Theosophy.

Brotherly relationships between members and lodges is strongly maintained and strengthening with time. Let us hope that there will be a greater flow of members in the future and that the activities in Theosophy will be intensified.

CARMEN AGUILA ALVAREZ,
General Secretary.

PARAGUAY

Dissolved

PHILIPPINES

We have entered a dark and difficult period in the history of the Theosophical Society in the Philippines. Just when we have a number of good plans for the two to three years, a sudden and devastating fire which started from the next-door neighbour, completely destroyed our Headquarters building at P. Florentino and Iba Sts., and everything in it. As early as 1948, we started in our present site with a quonset hut, which in 1960 we demolished and then we erected a two storey

concrete building. In 1962, we added two rooms on top to serve as our E. S. and Healing rooms respectively. Later in 1970, the entire third floor was roofed over and the building became a three-storey-structure. Since then we have continuously improved the building adding more conveniences and facilities, especially to the Lecture Hall, which was prepared for a package-air-conditioning, and an extra comfort-room on this second floor.

On September 2nd, 3:45 p.m., the building was razed to the ground. Nothing was saved except two typewriters which were being used at the time on the ground floor, and some reference books. Although it was declared a total loss by the Insurance Agency, what we can collect is so small it is not even enough to build for ourselves a simple ground floor. An intensive fund raising campaign from direct solicitations to movie benefits and concerts is being planned.

From the inner standpoint, it is really a blessing in disguise. First, the high cement wall which we built at the back served to contain the fire within the Headquarters building and saved the entire Iba Street from having been levelled to the ground, too. Also, because of the disaster, many members were drawn closer together, and many have come forward to offer their help. Third, we see the possibility of being able to start on a better footing, drawing lessons from past experiences to rise afresh, better and new.

The Annual Convention.—April 9 and 10, 1978, we had a very successful convention, with the theme "Towards an Awareness of Wholeness". I took up this theme for the Convention talk, while in the Seminar which followed, three others took up three related sub-topics to round off the theme. These were: Dra. Esther Doval-Santos on "The Approach of Wholeness from the Field of Mathematics"; Atty. Florida Ruth Romero, "Brotherhood, the Unifying Principle in Theosophical Work"; and Atty. Lugum Uka, "The Unifying Principle in Islamic Thought". The afternoon programme on the 9th of April, was a unique treatment of the subject, "Music A Unifying Experience", by the internationally famous violinist Dr. Gilopez Kabayao (now Conductor

of the Manila Symphony Society). Dr. Kabayao illustrated his subject with a beautiful rendition of violin pieces which were heartily applauded by a large audience which filled the Hall to overflowing. The second day was an outing to Pansolito, a Laguna Lake Resort. Aside from the swimming and games, there were the Lodge Presidents' reports and dialogue and a Workshop.

The Biennial Elections.—In May 14, 1978, the Section held its biennial elections. Five members of the previous Board were retained in the same position. Two new incoming members elected as Trustees, were Dr. Manuel Fernando and Atty. Flery Romero. She, however, later withdrew from the position which was then given to Mrs. Irma Florentin, her elder sister, who had the next highest number of votes. The officers reelected were: National President, Mrs. Cleo Z. Gregorio; National Vice-President, Atty. Mario L. Zapata; Secretary, Mr. Vic Hao Chin, Jr.; Treasurer, Mr. Angel Reyes; and Librarian, Mr. Tony S. Francisco.

Study Classes.—Long awaited by many members, our study of *The Secret Doctrine*, based on the "The Three Fundamental Propositions" drew twenty-eight participants from June 6 to 23, 1978, at the Headquarters. It was also requested by the two lodges up north, Cabanatuan and Muñoz, where I stayed from July 14th to the 16th, 1978, cramming the Course into three full days.

A nine day course on "Theosophical Studies based on the Bible" was conducted by Bro. Felipe Gamboa, from the first Sunday of August, also at the Headquarters.

Other lodges have also their own study-classes offered for their own members. Lodge study classes with different class-leaders seem to be a perennial activity in most lodges.

Membership.—Although our records were all burned in the September 2nd fire, from those we can reconstruct, it is possible to say that we have retained the same number of members as in the last report with an increase of only 4. A big influx of new members, 49 this year was offset by loss of many lapsing members, who up to this time have not yet turned in their membership dues.

Lodges.—We have nineteen lodges, and most of these I have been able to visit with very fruitful results. These included the provincial lodges: Munoz; Cabanatuan; Narra in Naga, Camarines Sur, and Tapan Lodge in the Island of Mindanao. Cebu Lodge was visited by Mrs. Flery Romero last year. One Lodge, Singalong, Metro Manila, is temporarily merged with Manila Lodge. Buhay Lodge, which was temporarily merged with Rizalana, is back on its own feet and is now meeting separately at the home of Dr. and Mrs. Magdalo Francisco.

The Indo-Pacific Federation.—An important objective in mind, when I went to attend the Pacific Conference in Yogyakarta, Indonesia, in August 18-21, 1978, was to get a good idea of the possibility of holding the next Conference here in Manila. This was something I have always wanted for the T. S. here, but I

had to determine for myself whether we could possibly handle it. The whole thing was, however, clinched for us, when the Section was chosen to be the host of the next Indo-Pacific Conference in 1981. This was a beautiful opportunity to work and dream for, however challenging. The loss of everything we had in the disastrous fire of the 2nd of September, does compound the difficulty a hundred-fold.

It is Darkest Just Before Dawn.—It was easier to feel brave and hopeful after the fire. Every day, the enormity of the whole thing is becoming evident. We are inspired by the thought, "the greater the challenge, the greater the victory"—and so we shall go on, knowing that what lies ahead, after this, the darkest hour—is the radiant DAWN when the Theosophical Society in the Philippines shall have risen like the Phoenix from its ashes—a better, more radiant vehicle for Their Work for humanity.

In this, we can with much happiness and pride count on the many new and dedicated workers who in this dark period are our inspiring lights who make our way much brighter. To them the Society shall be deeply indebted.

CLEO Z. GREGORIO,
General Secretary.

COLOMBIA

Study Groups.—Outstanding during the present year is the work performed through these groups which have their origin in the "Trios de Estudio" (Trio of study) which was established in 1977 and went on expanding to form groups of an average of 10 persons including members and sympathizers and coordinated by mem-

bers of all the branches in Bogota. The study groups have fixed time schedules for every day of the week. Preference is given to the works of Dr. I. K. Taimni; *Science of Yoga, Self-Realization, Mind and Consciousness*. Of other authors *Abridgement of the Secret Doctrine, Key to Theosophy* by H. P. B.

and *Talks on At the Feet of the Master* by Annie Besant and C. W. Leadbeater.

Branches in other cities.—In spite of the fact that the number of members has decreased in Barranquilla, Bucaramanga, Cali and Guayaquil, those who have stayed on are continuing their weekly reunions with good results.

Course on Science and Occultism. This course, which is based on Dr. Taimni's book, started last February with weekly classes which have continued without interruption. These are organised by Brother Gabriel Burgos and will continue throughout the year 1979. The book mentioned above is in the process of being translated by four members from Bogota. Permit me to emphasize the magnificent work of theosophical service rendered by Brother Burgos to the members of Bogota who will have the opportunity in the near future, as will other members, to know and appreciate the valuable contents of this book, once it is published in Spanish.

Theosophical Dialogue for Children.—This is formed by a small group of children of members of the T. S. and from other individuals, under the guidance of the couple Sara and Alfonso Ortiz. The study plan has been so adjusted to the mental level of the children, that it has been possible to take up the study of books that have a great transcendent message, like *At the Feet of the Master*, which proved very successful and helpful in raising the mental and emotional level of the children to a higher plane.

Public Lectures.—This way of studying Theosophy has been used throughout the current year by meetings at members'

and sympathizers' homes with varied and quite large audiences. The comments which were made on the themes of the respective talks have proved that a very satisfactory work has been accomplished.

Selection of Theosophy.—This magazine which is edited by Brother Walter Ballesteros continues to have an enormous popularity with the members for the important articles which are contributing to deep spiritual knowledge applicable to daily life. During this year there were 5 issues, Nos. 93 to 97. Once again, we thank the editor for the benefit which resulted.

Visits.—In the month of April at a theosophical picnic, we had the opportunity to hear messages from our International Vice-President, Sister Joy Mills. Sister Mills talked about the book *Light on the Path*, which had the favorable effect of rousing spiritual aspirations in the audience.

Brother Salim A. Wehbe.—Editor of the magazine *El Teosofista* paid us a visit in the month of September and held a conference on "Meditation and its Results", which was greatly appreciated.

New General Secretary of the T. S.—I have the pleasure to advise you that as of mid-November, I have handed on the duties of General Secretary of the Colombian Section to Brother Gabriel Burgos Suarez for the period 17th November, 1978 to 16th November, 1980. Being unanimously chosen, he offers his services as a hard worker and propagator of Theosophy.

MANUEL AREVALO,
General Secretary.

EAST AND CENTRAL AFRICA

It gives me great pleasure to report, once again, on the activities of the East and Central African Section for the year ended 30th September, 1978.

National Headquarters.—The Section Headquarters remained at Nairobi in the premises of the Nairobi Lodge (the only premises in the whole of the Section) at No. 55A Third Parklands Avenue, Nairobi, and the Section is very grateful to the Nairobi Lodge for providing it with this valuable facility.

Office Bearers of the Section.—All the office bearers, as reported in the last year's report, remained in office with the exception of the Bookstall Manager, Mr. R. P. Joshi, who resigned due to his inability to devote time to the work, owing to his occupation and constant travelling on business. Elected were Bro. C. P. Robertson-Dunn for English books and Bro. K. H. Patel for Gujarati and Hindi books.

Membership.—It is gratifying to note that the number of members from indigenous communities has increased and it is hoped that when Reuben Thuku returns to this country next year, more and more indigenous persons will become interested in the ideals of the Society and know that by joining the Society they have not to sever connections with either their religion or their traditional society, but rather they will follow them with understanding and relate them with the modern times. Though the number on the rolls this year has decreased by 130 (estimated), I congratulate all Lodges for maintaining interest in Theosophy to a large extent. The number of members on the rolls on 30.9.78 was 1,201 as against 1,331 last year.

Important Events of the Year:—(a) *28th Annual Convention at Nairobi.*—Due to differences of opinion between Kenyan

and Tanzanian Governments, it was the third consecutive year when the annual convention had to be held in Kenya and the Nairobi Lodge took up the opportunity of being the host to the 28th Convention as it had been the host to the 26th Convention in 1976. This Convention was again unique in many respects. (1) It was held on a non-holiday week-end. (2) It was the first time that the Vice-President of the Society was its chief Guest Speaker. (3) It was also the first time that H. W. the Mayor of Nairobi was the Guest of Honour and opened it. (4) Meals provided to delegates were made up for the first time of Indian, European and African dishes.

The Convention was well attended by members of all Kenya Lodges but only one delegate attended from Zambia (due to circumstances beyond their control) and only one from Tanzania—Bro. H. D. Shah, the Assistant General Secretary in Tanzania, who was brought by a charter plane at the expense of the Nairobi Lodge.

(b) *The Vice-President—Miss Joy Mills' short visit:* Besides being Chief Guest at the 28th Annual Convention at Nairobi, Miss Joy Mills was interviewed on the Voice of Kenya, radio and television, whereby the wisdom of Theosophy was carried through both mass media to thousands of human beings in and around Kenya. She also visited Nakuru Lodge and addressed a public meeting there.

(c) *Bro. Reuben's eye-grafting operation at Madras:* At the instance of Dr. Agarwal, the Chairman and the Vice-Chairman of the Nairobi Lodge, Mrs. M. Earnshaw and

Mr. Robertson-Dunn who were attending the 102nd Annual International Convention at Adyar, Madras, took an immediate decision to allow the eye-grafting operation on Bro. Reuben Thuku. Though Reuben has not yet been able to see as a result of this operation, because, as the doctor says, his optic nerve has remained inactive for the last 25 years, it is hoped some good will result. Because of this operation, Reuben lagged behind in his studies and so it was decided to allow him to attend the International Centre of Studies and Research at Adyar for the session ending in March 1979. We are very grateful to the Executive Committee of the International Headquarters at Adyar for continuing the scholarship to Br. Reuben Thuku up to that period.

Attendance at the 102nd International Convention at Adyar.—The Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Nairobi Lodge, Mrs. M. E. Earnshaw and Bro. C. P. Robertson-Dunn, attended the 102nd International Convention at Adyar together with three other members of the Nairobi Lodge, Mrs. S. R. Robertson-Dunn, Miss Rekha L. Vadgama and Miss E. Van der Moalen. Bro. H. D. Shah, the Asst. General Secretary for Tanzania, also attended the Convention.

Visits to Lodges.—During the year 1977/78 I have not been able to visit Lodges much.

- (a) However I, along with Mrs. M. Earnshaw, Mr. and Mrs. C. P. Robertson-Dunn, Bros. K. H. Shah and N. M. Shah of Nairobi Lodge accompanied Miss Joy Mills to Keekorock Game Lodge and thereafter to the Nakuru Lodge where Miss Mills delivered a public

lecture. Also I accompanied Bro. H. S. Patel when we both conducted a study class on *A Text Book of Theosophy* at Nakuru.

- (b) Br. H. D. Shah attended the 28th Annual Convention at the express wish of Nairobi Lodge which paid for his air fares.
- (c) Bro. N. J. Khetani and Bro. V. M. Shah visited Nairobi Lodge whenever they attended the Executive Committee Meetings of the Section.
- (d) Mrs. M. E. Earnshaw and Bro. C. P. Robertson-Dunn attended the English Section Convention in 1978.
- (e) Myself, Mrs. Earnshaw, Mr. and Mrs. C. P. Robertson-Dunn, Mr. K. H. Shah and several other members of the Nairobi Lodge visited Nakuru Lodge on the Adyar Day celebrations of Nakuru Lodge.

Celebrations.—All the principal days in the Theosophical Calendar, including birth and death anniversaries of the Founders and Presidents of the Theosophical Society were duly celebrated so that members may know what sacrifices have been made by these leaders in order that the message of Theosophy may spread and the world may learn that there cannot be peace in the world until all human beings know that they, being one in essence, should live in brotherly fashion with all that exists. A special "Adyar Day" celebration entitled "Journey into Awakening" was arranged by the Nakuru Lodge on 19.2.78 when myself, Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretary and eight other members of the Nairobi Lodge attended the function.

Study:

- (1) Study class on *A Text Book of Theosophy* was conducted by Bros. H. S.

Patel and H. M. Chhaya at Nakuru from 30th July to 5th August 1978.

(2) Nairobi Lodge conducted study classes on the following subjects during the year:

English classes

(a) Self Enlightenment Course (from English Section) 9 papers studied and discussed in 18 sessions conducted by M.s. Earnshaw.

(b) Paths of Self Realization in 4 sessions by Miss Joy Mills.

(c) Study of *Riddle of Life* conducted by various members.

(d) Study of *You* in 13 sessions conducted by Mrs. Earnshaw.

(e) Study of *At the Feet of the Master* 5 sessions by various members.

Gujarati classes

(a) Study of *Old Diary Leaves* conducted by Bro. H. S. Patel.

(b) Study of *Hints on the study of the Bhagavad Gita* by Bro. H. S. Patel.

(c) Study of *Ageless Wisdom of Life* Lessons 13 to 17 by various members.

(3) Study classes were held at Dar es Salaam as under:

(a) *The Divine Plan* in Gujarati by Bro. S. N. Joshi.

(b) *Universal Brotherhood* in Gujarati Bro. H. D. Shah.

(c) *The Theosophical Seal* in Gujarati by Bro. H. D. Shah.

(d) *Man's Inner Journey* in Gujarati (for 5 days) by Bro. R. M. Patel (from England).

Public Lectures.—Besides giving interviews on Voice of Kenya radio and television, Miss Joy Mills gave 5 public lectures in Nairobi and one in Nakuru, all of which were well attended.

Group Discussions.—Several sessions of group discussions were held and also question and answer sessions were held by Nairobi and Dar es Salaam Lodges.

Sale of Books.—Besides public lectures and use of mass media, another source of publicising the theosophical ideals is the sale of theosophical books and I am glad to report that we are known in the University circles for stocking and selling theosophical books at reasonable prices. We sold books worth shs. 6977-40 (£350) during the year under report.

Subscriptions to the international magazine, The Theosophist.—Last year our enthusiastic and young in spirit (though old in body—77 years old) Treasurer of the Nairobi Lodge, Bro. D. D. Patel (I am sorry to report that this enthusiastic member suddenly died of heart failure on 18.10.78) and other workers in Nakuru and Kisumu Lodges enlisted many new subscribers and we also arranged to get all the 185 copies for Kenya by air every month so that it is available to every subscriber within a few days of its publication in Adyar. Nakuru Lodge members have subscribed for seven secondary school libraries in Nakuru and members of the Nairobi Lodge have subscribed for eleven public libraries and one University library thus enabling the young and knowledge-hungry public of Kenya to know about the Wisdom.

Ladies' Meetings.—The ladies' meetings at Dar es Salaam continued each week when a theosophical book was studied. The Nairobi meetings had to be closed as it was found to be inconvenient for ladies to attend another meeting in addition to general weekly meetings.

Visit of Bro. R. M. Patel from England.—The former Chairman of Unity Lodge, Mombasa, Bro. R. M. Patel, is visiting his son in Lusaka and at my request he agreed to visit some of our Lodges in Tanzania, Zambia and Kenya. Accordingly, up to the time of writing this report he visited lodges at Moshi, Arusha, Dar es Salaam and all the eight lodges in

Zambia, and news of his talks, lectures and study classes held at various places indicates that members as well as the general public have benefited.

Allied Activities

Theosophical Order of Service.—Nairobi, Nakuru, Kisumu, Kericho, Kitale Lodges in Kenya; Dar es Salaam, Moshi and Arush Lodges in Tanzania; Mufulira, Kabwe, Kitwe, etc., Lodges in Zambia were active in serving suffering and needy humanity by supplying food, clothing, school fees, books and equipment, wheel chairs, medicines, free advice on nature cure, etc., Also tree planting was undertaken for preservation of ecology of the country.

Bharat Samaj Puja.—This congregational worship is carried on regularly every Sunday at Dar es Salaam and occasionally at Nairobi and other places at which those interested in ceremonials—members as well as sympathisers—participate. At many such ceremonies donations to the Lodge, the Section and the T.O.S. are given which are very much appreciated.

Healing Groups.—The healing ritual is performed every month regularly at Dar es Salaam.

Group Meditation.—This activity is carried on occasionally at various places, but Nairobi Lodge regularly conducts group meditations once a month.

Nairobi Lodge Diamond Jubilee Celebrations.—Nairobi Lodge was chartered by Dr. Annie Besant on 9th September 1918 and the celebrations were to take place on 8th, 9th and 10th September 1978 when the International Secretary, Dr. (Mrs.) Jean Raymond had consented to be the chief Guest, but owing to the death of the President of Kenya, H. E. Mzee Jomo Kenyatta on 22nd August they were postponed till 17th, 18th and

19th November, 1978 when Dr. Raymond being unable to attend, Bro. R. M. Patel, who was visiting these countries, was requested to be the Guest of Honour. I am glad to say that he has agreed to the proposal.

Obituary.—The East and Central African Section has become poorer through the death of the following members during the year:

Mr. Fidaali A. Aladin, Dar es Salaam; Mr. Dahyabhai Desaiabhai Patel, Nairobi; Mrs. Savitriben Moti D. Hira, Nairobi; Mr. Jethalal Khimji Shah, Nairobi; Mr. Purushottam M. Mehta, Unity, Mombasa; Mrs. Gangaben B. Parekh, Kabwe.

Although I have not included Mr. D. D. Patel's death in my membership statistics as at 30.9.78 as he died on 18th October 1978, I have included his name above.

Conclusion.—In spite of many handicaps due to the composition of this section being of three sovereign and independant countries with different currencies and exchange control regulations and immigration rules requiring visas for visiting one country from another, and as if this is not enough, the borders between Kenya and Tanzania still being closed for over a year, the land and air traffic being completely halted except by charter planes, we are carrying on the work of transmitting the message of Theosophy as best we can as a team. I am glad to report that lately we are having more and more support from our African brethren throughout the Section. We are grateful to the Headquarters at Adyar for giving a scholarship to our brother Reuben Thuku but we need more help for providing accommodation and maintenance expenses to Mr. and Mrs. Reuben Thuku who will be working full time for the Society when they return to Kenya in March 1979. We appeal for help

through the President's magazine *The Theosophist* from any quarter of the Theosophical world.

In the end we pledge our loyalty to the Cause, The Theosophical Society and

the President Bro. John B. S. Coats who represents the Society in the outer world.

H. M. CHHAYA,
General Secretary.

PAKISTAN

No Report

MALAYSIA

No Report

NORTHERN IRELAND

Although the year under review passed rather quietly, our programme of public lectures and discussions contained a very interesting variety of topics; "enough to feed the multitudes", I reckon. Let us recall the titles: "Sources of Truth" (recorded), Dr. J. Bendit; "Lost Continents of Atlantis and Lemuria" (recorded) K. Wakelam; "The Mysterious Laws and Powers of the Occult World" (recorded), G. Hodson; "Freedom", "Belief and Experience", and "The King of Kings", Leslie Francey; "The Theosophy of Experience", "Time and the Troubled Mind", "Seeking the Self", "Conversion", "The Testing of Truth", and "The Pursuit of Happiness", Dr. Hugh Shearman; "The Yoga of Silence" (recorded), Prof. J. Dörab; "Predestination and Free Will" (recorded), G. Barborka; "Are Science and Religion in Conflict?" (recorded), Dr. D. Leggett; "The Truth behind Astrology", "The Song of Life", "The Way to Peace", "The Roots of Sensitivity", "Raja

Yoga", and "Seeker after Truth", Tony Rodriguez; two discussions on "Divine Incarnation" and "The Changing Face of Theosophy"; "Questions and Discussion", and "Easter Readings". Despite the widespread range of topics, I still think that perhaps we should be attempting to provide fewer recorded talks and more "homespun creations". This, of course, can only be done if more of our members experience a greater urge to share their views, ideas, experiences, etc., from the public platform that is always available to them.

The Thirtieth Annual Convention of the Theosophical Society in N. Ireland was held on Sunday 21st May at 3.15 p.m. at Gateway House. The business meeting was preceded by an interesting recording on "The Yoga of Silence", by Prof. J. Dörab. The existing officers were re-elected, and the Organizing Secretary was entrusted to convey the good wishes of the Convention to the International President at Adyar.

Members' meetings continued as usual with two or three gathered together, sometimes four . . . sometimes five. Our attention was drawn towards a Penguin selection of Krishnamurti's writings. We also felt almost breathless attempting to unravel the complexities of *The Ultimate Reality and Self-Realization*, a most fine translation—with commentary—of a Yoga classic, the Siva Sutras, by the late Dr. I. K. Taimni. Lately, we have been tackling that timeless problem, *I and Thou* with the help of Martin Buber's little book.

In August, in search of "The Eternal Verities" four of our members attended the European Congress at Durham where they had the opportunity of meeting Theosophists from all over the World.

Membership remains fairly static despite a considerable number of enquiries. It now stands at 39. In May, Belfast Lodge welcomed a new member, Miss Teresa Anne Mooney. We wish her well. One member transferred to London; another member resigned; and two rather old members were lapsed. As far as increase in membership goes, we do not appear to be very successful. On the other hand, in our "business", who can tell the measure of success? The harvest is plentiful; the workers are always few. Despite the modest membership, Theosophy in Ulster is very much alive.

A. RODRIGUEZ,
Organizing Secretary.

VIET-NAM

Under the present situation, the work of the Theosophical Society in Viet Nam is allowed to carry on within a certain limit, and its activities are forcibly reduced in scope and extent.

We have weekly meetings on Sunday mornings at our National Headquarters, where a public lecture is given on Theosophy from 9 to 10, with some questions and answers for half an hour; and then a study-class on *At the Feet of the Master* is held from 10.30 to 12.

The average audience is about forty people at each meeting or lecture. Besides weekly meetings on Sundays, we have duly celebrated all the T.S. usual ceremonies and anniversaries namely the Adyar Day, the White Lotus Day, Wesak, and anniversaries of our T. S. great leaders. The Lodges in the outlying areas of Saigon and in the provinces are virtually inoperative.

Three lodges have been officially dissolved. One President, French descent, returned to his home country. The two others left the cities for cultivation work. The rest continue to study Theosophy at home and have fraternal relationship between the members.

We see that now many people are interested in theosophical books but we do not have conditions to publish them.

We are endeavouring to keep the sacred fire burning in the hearts of our members and spread the light of Theosophy, so that we may become good citizens of our country, the Viet Nam Socialist Republic, and good Theosophists living up to the theosophical ideals of service to the Master and to Humanity.

LUU-THI-DAU,
General Secretary.

VENEZUELA

No Report

WEST AFRICA

(Report for period January-December 1977)

New Year School.—We began the year 1977 with a New Year School on 8th and 9th January in Kumasi. This was the third New Year School since 1974 when we held the first at Tsito in the Volta Region. As a matter of fact the 1977 School should have been the fourth but for the fact that arrangements for the 1976 School planned to be held in Koforidua fell through and had to be cancelled at the last moment.

The theme for the School was "The Theosophical Society and the Individual Member" and the purpose was to clarify our minds on what our membership of the Theosophical Society means, the role of a Lodge of the T.S. and the nature of the Society itself. We sought to do this because it was felt that there was a need to get these basic questions of roles quite clear in our minds: we should all clearly understand what is expected of us as individual members, as groups at the Lodge and Centre levels and as a world-wide Society. The theme was not exactly an exciting one, but the discussions turned out to be lively and thought-provoking and made us think again rather seriously about matters we had taken for granted. The brief get-together was a happy one for the participants who came from six Lodges and one Centre and who departed feeling that it had been well worthwhile.

Annual Convention.—The Annual Convention was held on 8th and 9th April in Accra with the theme "Making Theo-

sophy a Reality in our Lives". In the opening address the Organizing Secretary drew attention to repeated criticisms that Theosophy was theoretical. He called for thought to the need for means and ways of making it possible for the student to come to a personal realization of the teachings which are implied in the term Theosophy. The talks given were on Approaches to Self-realization, Approaches to Meditation, Comparative Religion, and Putting Oneself "on the Side of the Gods". A talk with demonstrations on yoga asanas did not take place because the guest speaker failed to turn up. A highlight was the initiation of new members.

Membership Position.—During the course of the year 92 new members were admitted—44 from Nigeria, 43 from Ghana, 3 from Liberia and 1 each from Togo and Cameroon. As far as old members were concerned, the statistics show the following: 59 members in Nigeria and 48 in Ghana, making a total of 107 lapsed; 88 members in Ghana, 35 in Nigeria and 5 in Liberia renewed their membership for the year; and nine persons who had lapsed in previous years reinstated themselves. All told, we had 233 members in good standing at the end of the year.

The statistics show that the whole old membership of Sri Ram Lodge, Tamale, lapsed. The lone member in good standing was newly admitted in 1977.

Therefore technically the Lodge exists only on paper. The same applies to Enugu Centre in Nigeria which was revived three years ago in 1975 after a long period of inactivity. Efforts to resuscitate Arundale Lodge, Denu, have not succeeded yet, and so that Lodge does not even appear in the statistics.

If membership in some Lodges has been declining, numbers in certain townships have been increasing. On the basis of the figures steps are being taken to have a new Centre formed in Aba, a town in the south-eastern part of Nigeria. In the same area is Port Harcourt, the second port city of Nigeria, where last year efforts were reported to have been going on to have members brought together to form a Centre. No definite result has come out of these efforts yet. Meanwhile the membership in that city is increasing. Another township where last year action was reported to be going on to have a Centre established was Kaduna in northern Nigeria. We are happy to report now that the Centre has been established and is functioning under an energetic Secretary.

Organization in Nigeria.—Last year concern was reported about the scattered nature of the membership in Nigeria and some plans were announced to bring about some organization of the membership. These included the formation of Centres where the numbers were encouraging, and organization of the country into three zones—East, West and North. A Zonal Secretary was reported to have been appointed for the East. Consideration is now being given to the appointment of the energetic Secretary of Kaduna Centre as Zonal Secretary for the North. Meanwhile the Regional Secretary for the whole of Nigeria continues to hold temporary responsibility for the Western Zone as well.

Another plan voiced out at the last Convention was a tour of the Centres in Nigeria. Details of the plan have now been drawn up. It was hoped that the Regional Secretary for the country would accompany the Organizing Secretary, but it does not appear possible for the Regional Secretary to undertake the tour which is planned to begin from Lagos through Benin City in the mid-west belt to Enugu in the East and down south through Aba to Calabar, Port Harcourt and Umuahia. The plan also includes an area Convention at Aba which is at the cross roads from Calabar, Port Harcourt, Enugu and Umuahia and Owerri. If the plans come through it would be the first time that an official of the Federation will have personal contact with the membership in those areas. The intention is to achieve this personal contact, get to know what is happening in those areas, discuss members' problems, which are many, clarify their notions about the nature and mission of the Society which is very grossly misconstrued in those areas, get the Centres on to some working basis and, for the first time, make the membership there feel that they do belong in reality to an extended organisation.

Formation of a Section.—Talking about organisation in Nigeria and plans for the immediate future leads one on to plans for the future organisation of the Society in West Africa as a whole. The Theosophical Society in West Africa is at present a federation of Lodges in Ghana, Nigeria and Liberia. The expectation is that Lodges will spring up in other West African countries and join the Federation. Recently a Lodge has been formed in Cameroon, attached directly to Adyar. The organisation as it is now is meant to be a transitional arrangement leading to the further organisation of the Lodges into National Societies or Sections.

The regulation requirement for the status of a National Society is that there should be a minimum of seven Lodges within a national boundary. Where areas or countries which are territorially adjacent do not each have enough Lodges to form a National Society but together they have the minimum required number, the President may form them into a Section. National Societies and Sections are both headed by General Secretaries who *ex officio* are members of the General Council, the Governing Body of the Theosophical Society, which meets annually in India.

By the minimum qualifications, the Lodges in Ghana, which are nine in number, qualify to be constituted into a National Society. Regarded as a whole, too, the Lodges in West Africa qualify in terms of numbers to be constituted into a Section.

At present, however, the three countries which form the West African Federation of Lodges, are separated by other countries and are, therefore, not territorially adjacent.

The question of whether we should apply to be constituted into a National Society in Ghana or a West African Section has come up for discussion several times in the past, and on each occasion the intention to apply was shelved out of considerations that we were not sufficiently equipped or organisationally strong enough to adequately meet the responsibilities implied in that status.

Recently the suggestion was put forward again, and in order to have some proposal to place before this Convention, the matter was put before the Special Council meeting held in January this year.

Once again the old reservations were expressed, but this time it was decided that the matter should not be indefinitely shelved but that a committee should be set up to consider remedies for the militat-

ing conditions, which include financial weakness and the unavailability of a headquarters building. We are in the process of putting up such a building and 24th March witnessed the laying of the Foundation Stone by our International Vice-President, Miss Joy Mills, who arrived in Accra that day for a three-day visit. That act should now set us forward-moving at a resolute pace. The committee was to consider, among other things, how to get the building constructed quickly and how our financial position might be improved, and to draw up an action programme leading to our readiness for the status of a National Society or a Section by a specific date. The Committee was to submit its report next June.

Summary.—To summarize: In the 1977 year we held our New Year School which we have recently made an annual affair. Patronage of the school has shown improvement but attendance is still not too encouraging, and too many members appear to be unwilling to take the trouble and make the expense required to attend the school. Every year, however, those who have attended have found their attendance more than worthwhile. We wish to send the call again to other members to make the effort when the time comes for the next school.

Through the medium of that New Year School and the year's Annual Convention we sought to keep ourselves in trim for the work of the new century as far as we are beginning to see it. This kind of approach should be continued in our Lodges so that our Lodge work does not remain a routine wooden sort of activity.

The year has shown that large numbers of our members continue to lapse annually. This is a sign of some loss of interest which at the Lodge levels we should take special action to remedy.

Our future plans include a tour of parts of Nigeria by the Organizing Secretary and an action programme to bring us up to the point where we could confi-

dently apply for the status of a National Society/Section.

ISAAC ZANEY,
Organizing Secretary.

BOLIVIA

Up to October of 1977, the Theosophical Society in Bolivia was composed of four (4) lodges, namely: Paz, Inti, Rafael Echazu, and Loto Blanco. In November of the same year, the Tiahuanacu Lodge was founded in the city of La Paz under the leadership of Sister Emiliana Cortez Villanueva, who was a long term member of the Paz Lodge. She continues her work preaching theosophical teachings and because of the normality of the activities of this lodge, an application for its charter was sent to the Headquarters Office in Adyar, India. Together with this application, two (2) others were sent for the chartering of the lodges of Paititi and Inquietud in the city of Santa Cruz. Also, during the month of March of the current year, the Lodge Urus was organized in the city of Oruro; however, its incorporation into the Presidential Agency has not been completed due to the fact that some of the members claim to affiliate this lodge to the Theosophical Section of the Republic of Argentina as in the past, ignoring the fact that there exists a Presidential Agency in Bolivia to which they should incorporate themselves and attend to their administrative activities on a regular basis.

The work of all lodges continues normally and the studies take place based on the spiritual knowledge taught by the founders and principal leaders of the Society.

First Encounter of Theosophical Students in Bolivia.—An announcement to convene a meeting of all members of the Theo-

sophical Society of Bolivia, has been issued. The meeting is to take place in Cochabamba during October 21-23, 1978. Its objectives are to coordinate and harmonize the work, and bring about friendship among the members of all lodges. The Inti Lodge will host the meeting and will take advantage of the visit of Brother Eduardo Thomas of Argentina, who will be the guest speaker of this conference as in the past year.

Number of Lodges to Date.—The theosophical Society in Bolivia is composed of the following eight (8) lodges: Paz, Inti, Tiahuanacu, Rafael Echazu, Urus, Loto Blanco, Paititi, and Inquietud.

We are hopeful that the recently founded lodges will consolidate their activities so as to assure their long existence. Meanwhile we will act cautiously to apply, at a later date, for the establishment of the Bolivian Section.

Summer School.—The following members attended the summer school in Cordova which was organized by the Argentinian Section:

Mario Cariaga and Adela Ovando of the Paz Lodge; Emma Covarubias and Maria Rosa Molina of the Inti Lodge; Carlos Justiniano of the Inquietud Lodge.

Presidential Agency.—The work of the Presidential Agency has been extensive in order to stimulate the activities and to increase the number of members in all lodges, and to organize new lodges. Several trips were taken in order to visit the lodge members in the cities of

Cochabamba, Oruro, Santa Cruz, and Sucre.

In commemoration of the classical dates of the Theosophical Society (Nov. 17, Feb. 17, and May 8) and the calendar New Year of 1978, salutation messages

were sent to all lodges. These messages included articles of the leaders of the Theosophical Society which are related to the celebration of such dates.

RAUL LAGUNA LOZADA,
Presidential Agent.

CANADIAN FEDERATION

The highlights of the Annual Business Meeting and the Council Meeting, both held at Montreal, on the 1st and 2nd of April, 1978, were the adoption of a new set of By-Laws, and a set of Rules and Regulations. The By-Laws have been sent to the Headquarters in Adyar for approval. We heard from the International Secretary that they were satisfactory except for two minor points: 1. the name of the chief executive officer, being unusual, needs to be defined, and 2. how the chairperson of a Council meeting is appointed when the Coordinator is absent. These points shall be submitted to the Fall Council Meeting for clarification.

The big bang that happened during these last months was the effective transfer—in spite of all efforts on our part—of Hermes Lodge with all (except one) of its members to the Section. Although this move appears rather strange on the part of members who had been the pillars of the Federation for fifty years, we wish them a happy career in the Section. (It might be useful to recall, especially for undecided members registered in the Federation, that the Canadian Federation is unconditionally attached to the Adyar-based Theosophical Society, while the by-laws of the Section, article 25, states that, by a vote, it may “deviate”

from its attachment to Adyar.) North Vancouver Lodge had been unduly associated with this transfer; its case shall be examined at the Fall Council Meeting.

On a more positive side, we have had the joy and the honour to welcome Dr. Jean Raymond, the International Secretary, who visited Toronto and Montreal. At Toronto she had a meeting with members at which she gave a talk. At Montreal, she gave a public lecture entitled “The Purpose of our Existence”, and had a meeting with the English-speaking members and another meeting in the Laurentians with the French-speaking members.

I am happy to report seven new memberships, which together with the 13 already reported earlier, makes a total of 20 new members for the past year. Our total membership thus amounts presently to eighty-seven.

Finally I wish to recall that each member of the Canadian Federation has been individually subscribed to *Adyar Newsletter*. As far as I am aware, the Canadian Federation is the only national group in the world to thus link each of its members directly to the heart of the Theosophical Society, Adyar.

C. TON PHAN,
Coordinator (Federation Secretary).

EUROPEAN FEDERATION

The activities of the 21 Sections of this Federation are given in their separate Sectional reports. These include Summer Schools at many of which our International Vice-President, Miss Joy Mills, was the Guest of Honour and principle speaker.

The most important event of the year was the 28th European Congress which took place in August at Grey College, Durham, a University city in the north of England. The special guest was Miss Joy Mills, whose vivid lecturing and dynamic personality endeared her to us all. We were also very happy to have the International Secretary, Dr. Jean Raymond, with us. This is the first time that she has visited Europe in her official capacity. Both Miss Mills and Dr. Jean Raymond have made visits to Sections in the Federation during the summer.

Nearly 300 members took part in the Congress. We were very glad to welcome many members from outside the Federation, including the National President from the United States, Mrs. Dora Kunz, and members from Canada, Puerto Rico, India, Brazil, Australia and New Zealand. We had special pleasure in welcoming Mr. K. N. Ramanathan, the manager of T. P. H., Adyar. Mr. Ramanathan has many friends in England as he and his wife previously spent many years in London. But we were very disappointed that Srimati Rukmini Devi was prevented by ill-health from joining us. We rejoiced to know later that she had fully recovered.

As so many members of the General Council were expected, the President, Mr. Coats, had decided that meetings of the General Council should be held and that Miss Mills should be the Chairman. One of these meetings was open to all members to attend—the first time

that this has ever been allowed, we believe. Afterwards, comments from the "audience" made it quite clear that the experiment had been well worth while. It had given the members a far clearer understanding of the work of the General Council. There was a record attendance (during recent years, at least) of 22 General Councillors as well as official "observers".

Meetings of the Council of the Federation were also held during the Congress. At these, reports from the Sections were received and financial and other business discussed and plans for future activities put forward. The second of the two Executive Meetings took place at Grey College, the first having been held in Tekels Park, Camberley, in March.

The March meeting of the Executive was combined with a Study Weekend, when we had speakers from several Sections. It was thought that future meetings of the Executive Committee might be again organized in conjunction with members' study meetings.

This Congress was an opportunity for forming and renewing friendships, and allowed us to expand our ideas of Theosophy beyond the confines of our individual Lodges and Sections and to perceive the all-embracing nature of our philosophy, which can, if we allow it, bridge all gulfs of separation and barriers of misunderstanding, so that even the incomprehensibility of other tongues becomes not an impediment but a joke.

Many other members have made holiday visits to Europe this summer. We hope that they have taken happy memories home with them and will come again.

Following the Congress there was a two-day Conference of the Book Publishing Houses of the Society. This, possibly

the most important aspect of our work in relation to the modern world, enabled the different Publishing Houses to understand each other's problems and to devise plans for future co-operation in spreading the message of Theosophy.

Finally our thanks are due to the General Secretary for Wales, Mr. Charles James, and to Miss Grace Blanch upon whom fell all the burden of preparation and organization of the Congress. I am

personally very much indebted to them for their unfailing help and resourcefulness. And I should also like to thank the members of the Executive Committee, especially the Vice-Chairman, Mrs. Barbro Melander, and our unofficial and unfailingly efficient Secretary, Miss Mary Anderson, for their support during the past year.

MADELEINE LESLIE-SMITH,
Chairman.

INTER-AMERICAN FEDERATION

The year started with a Council Meeting held in the Raja Centre, Sao Paulo, Brazil, on January 26th-29th. Delegates from Argentina, Chile, Brazil, Central America, Uruguay and Puerto Rico were present. All the items included in the Agenda were considered. The meetings were followed by group studies with the participation of all members present.

Another Inter-American Meeting, this time an informal one, was held during the Argentine Summer School, in April. Representatives from Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Central America, Bolivia and Uruguay were present. The International Vice-President, Miss Joy Mills, added her knowledge and experience to the points considered.

Miss Mills made a tour—organized by the I. T. F.—which covered Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Central America and Mexico. Though it was rather short—only five weeks—the tour was very useful to the work in the different sections.

As a result of the Council Meeting held in January, the Publishing Department of the Federation was formed, to work at a commercial level, with larger editions and an independent administration. To make its activities in accordance with national regulations, the Executive Com-

mittee is trying to obtain its legal capacity in Argentina, where the Federation has its present Headquarters.

All the texts included in the plans for the present year were published. They are: *The Masters and Path*, by C. W. Leadbeater; a series of articles on the Mahatmas, by H. P. B.; *The Ultimate Reality and Realization*, by I. K. Taimni, *Space, Time and Self*, by N. Pearson; *Raja Yoga*, by W. Slater. *Man, God and the Universe* (I. K. Taimni) is almost ready and translation has been finished on *Thoughts for Aspirants*, second series, by N. Sri Ram; *Glimpses into the Psychology of Yoga*, by I. K. Taimni; and *Meditation, Its Practice and Results*, by C. Codd. The Executive Committee—with prior approval of the Sections—is planning to add some more pages to the official journal *America Teosofica*.

The Federation President travelled to Santiago, Chile, to attend the Sectional Convention and to Uruguay, to participate in some study meetings.

The Federation Vice-President, Mr. Juan Viñas, started a tour through El Salvador, Guatemala, and Mexico in October. This tour will last for five months.

LUIS SPAIRANI,
President.

THE REPORT OF THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

LODGES ATTACHED DIRECT TO ADYAR

PERU

H. P. B. Lodge, Lima:

It is a pleasure for me to detail the activities for the year ending September 30, 1978,

We started this new year with a short period of vacation in which we promoted meetings, conversations and exchange of ideas between our members, family and visitors.

On April 5, Bro. Julio Pomar as outgoing President read the Annual Report and Bro. Juan Tarazona assumed the responsibility for the new administration that will guide the T.S. during the period 1978-1980.

Also in April, as beginning our work activities, we started the first Basic Course of Theosophy for the year, inviting members and public by weekly publications in newspapers. It was very successful; our classroom was filled with people between 18 and 70 years anxious to receive lessons. In total we assisted 70 persons. This course has continued for three months, and has been directed by Bro. Estela Trujillo.

This year we had the following meetings:

Tuesday: only for members. We continue studying "*The Secret Doctrine*"

Wednesday: In the first hour we also continue studying, in Lodge session only for members, *Self-Culture in the light of Occultism* of I.K. Taimni.

The second hour is dedicated to prepare members to diffuse Theosophy with lessons on Oratory and Theatre.

Saturday: In the first hour we had interesting talks about theosophical themes directed by Brothers of the Lodge.

In August the 2nd course of Basic Theosophy began under the guidance of

Bro. Carlos Garcia. Like in the first course, the lessons were being given in the second hour and many interested people came.

We hope to continue to captivate members until the end of the year.

The two films, "How Many Lifetimes" and "The Universal Flame", were shown at a public meeting in August.

We continue preparing all the necessary things for the Healing Group and we will be all ready to start the activities in November 1978.

This year we kept constantly in touch with the Inter-American Federation, buying books and magazines and also with the International Theosophical Youth Centre.

During the last week of September we had a visit from Mr. and Mrs. Wehbe of the magazine *The Theosophist* (Spanish edition.) They gave 3 conferences only for members and some others for the public, in which they took up very interesting points of Theosophy.

CARMEN CECILIA NARANJA R.,
Secretary.

H. P. B. "A" Lodge, Lima: No Report

Paz y Amor Lodge, Lima:

It is an honour to advise you about the activities of the T.S. Lodge "Paz y Amor" from October 1977 till 30th September, 1978:

The Officers were: President, Sister Mrs. America Espinoza de Espiritu; Treasurer, Brother Alfonso Revoredo Iglesias; Secretary, Brother Bernardino Jines Warinka; Librarian, Sister Consuelo Ramirez de Torres Luna.

Activities: In their meetings for study

and insight are represented: "The 7 Rays", "The Power of Thought", "The Principles preached by the most High Christ", "Some New Ideals of Education", "How to develop Intuition", "The Chained Gods", "Real and False Yoga", "The Best Method of Education", "The Theme of Intuition", "Significance of the Truisms of Christ", Letter of *Phoenix Rising*, "Way of Collaborating"; conferences of Rev. Bro. Obispo Gerrit Munnik of Ojai, California, 7th-9th of June, 1978; "Glimpses of Occultism", "The 7 Principles and 7 Centres of Human Power"; "Seeking Understanding"—dialogue between Dr. I. K. Taimni and *Phoenix Rising*; Lecture on *Adyar Newsletter*.

Other Activities: 1st week of May conversation with 3 sections of students of Muquiyauyo; conversation, "How to form a Child", with the parents of Muquiyauyo; 1st week in August: conversation "Method to Develop One's Spiritual Potentialities" with the students of Sincos; 2nd week of September: "The Cycles of Human Life and Karma" to the students

of secondary education of Muquiyauyo and Jauja. Discussion at the H. P. B. Branch on "The Mission of the Liberal Catholic Church" and the visit of Rev. Obispo Gerrit Munnik, 25-5-78; "Seeking Understanding", dialogue between Dr. I. K. Taimni and *Phoenix Rising* in the H. P. B. Branch, 14-9-78. Accompanying Rev. Obispo Gerrit Munnik to the anthropological museum and the Institute for Children with Problems of Conduct, on 9-6-78.

Handing out of the T. S. Membership Diploma to Bro. Cipriano Campos.—On this happy occasion, the post brought us package No. 118 of the T. S. in Adyar, containing the Diplomas of the members of the Lodge Paz y Amor, Mrs. Virginia Fernandez Blas and Brother Luis Jines Huaranga.

We have duly received the *Adyar Newsletter* every trimester till August-October of 1978, for which we are deeply grateful.

BERNARDINO JINES WARÍŃKA,
Secretary.

ISRAEL

Covenant Lodge, Tel Aviv:

During the year under review we had the same activities as in the past besides the visit of our International Secretary, Dr. Jean Raymond, who gave us a very interesting lecture and her lovely presence which we enjoyed very much.

The total number of our members this year is 43—one lapsed.

One of our members is in correspondence with Prof. Dr. U. R. von Ehrenfels, Germany, who is very interested in theosophical books in Arabic. I sent him *At the Feet of the Master* and the book

by Prof. Hakim, *Islam and Sufism*. I hope our work on this line will progress more and more. I am looking forward to the book *Reincarnation* in Arabic which, once printed will be allowed to go to the West Bank. I will be able to renew our theosophical work with some of our Arab student friends from there.

As in the past years, we had lectures for the German Group and for the Hebrew-English Group, once every fortnight. The Russian members are attending the Hebrew lectures, since they know the language already.

From Sarakinos Memorial Library, I received a letter asking for magazines and other theosophical publications. I sent them samples of literature in six languages. I sent also *At the Feet of the Master* and the booklet by Prof. Hakim in Arabic to Dorothy Simmons c/o Brockwood Park, Brandean, in England (a Krishnamurti Centre).

For many years, one of our members, Frida Deutsch, is nursing the little sick pets which she finds on the street. Her home is like a little animal hospital. Similarly Miss Mira Weiss. Miss Rifka Hanan, aged 18, a member, is helping the nurses in hospital during the evening—sometimes at night. Lodge Covenant sent two parcels of dresses for Indian women, and will send more. So there is also T. O. S. work in Israel.

BERTHE DOMINIC,
President.

H. P. B. Lodge, Tel Aviv:

The Russian H. P. B. Lodge has only 13 members now. Since almost all the members know Hebrew they are joining in the meetings of the Covenant Lodge.

One of our members whose profession is law, is teaching music in a school for sub-normal children. Under the education of this teacher, Eduard Markman from Russia, a good choir of these children gave concerts in a mental hospital. The children themselves, not realizing that they are not normal, were very happy to have helped their sick brothers. The same choir will give concerts in other hospitals and old people's homes. I think it is great work indeed which this teacher has accomplished through much love and compassion.

ELPHA KAGAN
President.

Morya Lodge, Haifa:

We have ten members in the Morya Lodge, and 6 permanent visitors. One

member Nathan Ramrajkar left for Canada, and died there. The elected President/Secretary of the Lodge is Varda Ben-Yzhak.

We studied the course by Joy Mills on Theosophy. There were two lectures on the chains and rounds, and a reading about "Occult Chemistry". During one meeting we had a conversation about our attitude to death.

We work together with the Lodge B'sorat Hagalil, so from time to time we meet with the outer group and have a very interesting discussion about the Israeli-Arab conflict from the viewpoint of a Theosophist. The bulletin *Theosophia* didn't come out in 1977-78, but will be renewed next year. It will come out now in Hebrew only.

We contacted other circles such as the vegetarian movement, and an artist circle which is interested to hear about Theosophy. We are in contact with the Lodge in Tel-Aviv.

The visit and lecture of the International Secretary, Jean Raymond, was very successful and she spoke before a group of 24 people.

Our sincerest wish for the next year is to increase, to get strength and power to spread our action and ideals. And to get in touch with our brethren in Egypt. After Camp David maybe we can say what our first Zionist Leader Zeew Bin-yamin Herzl said: "If you wish, it is not a legend."

VARDA BEN-YZHAK,
President.

B'sorat Hagalil Lodge, Haifa:

The B'sorat Hagalil Lodge has still great difficulties, but now there is hope of getting new members. The plan for this working year is first of all to continue to cooperate with the Morya Lodge in Haifa, secondly to meet in Carmiel

where there is a small number of people who are seriously interested in Theosophy.

The President of the Lodge is now Jehuda Carmeli, and the secretary's work is done by Varda Ben-Yzhak, the President of Morya Lodge.

There are only 4 members now and I have to report about the cancelled membership of Towa and Dow Hermann, and Zfat and Jaffa Tal, Carmiel, who left the Society. The 4 members are: Jehuda Carmeli, Josi Danan, Sara Shimoni, and Pinhas Mor.

VARDA BEN-YZHAK,
Secretary.

Harmony Lodge, Tel-Aviv:

Work in our Lodge started somewhat later than usual in the year under review, owing to the fact that the majority of our office-holders were travelling in Europe during the autumn-months.

Brother Hans Zeuger, the Lodge President, and Sister Edith Zeuger participated in the "Esoteric Festival", held in Munich, Germany, and Mr. Zeuger visited the Munich Branch of the "Internationale Theosophische Verbruederung", a splinter group, where he received a very warm welcome. He furthermore, took part in Lodge meetings in our own Lodge in this beautiful city, and was invited by Brother Gustav Ringer, the Lodge President, to give a lecture on "The State of Israel as seen through the eyes of a Theosophist", with many members of the above mentioned splinter group attending. Facts, hitherto unknown to his listeners, could thus be conveyed to the audience and were met with intense attention and interest.

In Amriswil, Switzerland, Mr. Zeuger addressed the same group of spiritually interested people to whom he had spoken two years ago, on the theme: "Has human life a deeper significance?",

followed by a rather longish period of questions and answers.

From Switzerland Mr. Zeuger went to Mauren, in the principality of Liechtenstein, to see Brother Franz E. Hirth, a member of long standing, who had written to him with regard to a number of antisemitic utterances in the writings of Madame Blavatsky, to which Brother Hirth strongly objected.

When in England, Mr. & Mrs. Zeuger repeatedly visited the London Headquarters, meeting many good old friends. After a lecture given by Brother Boris de Zirkoff, Brother Zeuger had occasion to mention to him the offensive antisemitic remarks in some of Madame Blavatsky's writings, and Brother Boris promised to take the matter up with the International President, Brother John Coats, with a view to eliminate them in future issues of her books.

Upon invitation of the President of Blavatsky Lodge, Mr. Zeuger brought the greetings of our members in Israel during the Christmas celebration of the Lodge, and delivered a short speech on the "Church of Nativity" in Bethlehem.

Regular Lodge meetings started in December 1977 and were conducted twice monthly until the end of May 1978. There is no change in our Lodge membership. At the beginning of 1978, Mr. Zeuger gave a lecture in one of our kibbuzim (co-operative settlements), and for the third consecutive year was interviewed by the Israel representative of the Columbia Broadcasting Station in U.S.A. concerning his astrological political forecasts which contained this time the prediction of a peace treaty between the Arabs and the Israelis which—after the negotiations in Camp David—is due to be signed in the very near future.

Our Lodge started the translation into Russian of the highly interesting book

Kundalini by Gopi Krishna, and purchased Beatrice Flemming's 3-volume-work: *Das Theosophische Weltbild* for systematic studies.

Contact was furthermore made with the German periodical *Esotera*, the editorial staff of which is organizing a trip to Israel in December next.

The crowning event, however, was the

visit to Israel by Sister Dr. Jean Raymond, the International Secretary, at the end of August, who gave us a very fine lecture on "The Purpose of our Existence" which drew many questions from her grateful listeners.

HANS ZEUGER,
President.

SINGAPORE

The Executive Committee has pleasure in submitting the Annual Report and Statements duly audited for the year ending 30.9.1978.

Office Bearers.—The following members were elected office-bearers at the Annual General Meeting held on 5th November 1978:

President, Bro. Edwin J. D'Souza; *Vice-President*, Sis. Bette Heng-Yap; *Hon. Treasurer*, Sis. Lim Lee Hoon; *Hon. Secretary*, Sis. Heather Du'pratt; *Hon. Librarian*, Bro. Tan Hruce Thiag; *Committee Members*, Bros. Tan Siow Hee, Sim Meng Kwoon, Bernard Chan.

During the year, Bros. Sim Meng Kwoon and Bernard Chan resigned. Bro. Richard Tan Keng Kian was co-opted for the former post. However, as Bro. Bernard's withdrawal was rather late in the year, it was decided by the Committee to leave his post vacant until the next AGM.

Committee Meetings.—As of 30.9.1978, eleven Executive Committee Meetings and two fund-raising Committee Meetings were held.

Membership.—Four new members and two resignations brought the total full membership to 46. We have had an influx of a dozen new associate members bringing the total to 26.

Accounts.—The excess of income over

expenditure amounted to S. \$ 3,059.63, which was rounded off to S. \$ 3,000 and placed in the Building Fund. The remainder of S. \$ 59.63 was channelled into the Capital Fund.

Activities.—Enquirers were guided to discussion groups which studied the following works weekly: *Thought Forms*, *Talk on the Path of Occultism* Part I and *A Textbook of Theosophy*.

The Committee is grateful to Bro. Edwin J. D'Souza for conducting classes on "Elements of Predictive Hindu Astrology" and Bro. Tan Siow Hee for his interesting book commentaries. A small beginning was made in generating interest in Krishnamurti by a discussion group entitled "Opinion on Krishnamurti" led by Sis. Dolores Bogard.

Talks treated a variety of subjects: Bro. Alex Langhof spoke on "A Panorama of Spirituality Today", Bro. Richard K. K. Tan shared "Personal Experiences on the Path", Swami Sharananda of the Divine Love Movement advised on "Meditation and a Balanced Life" and Ven. Narada delved into "Problems of Life". Members were pleased to welcome and listen to Sis. Radha Burnier who spoke on "Meaning of Life" and "Practical Theosophy". International President, Bro. John B. S. Coats discussed "Terms of Reference" on his

stopover to the Pacific Convention this year.

Contact with the world-wide Theosophical movement was strengthened when Singapore was represented at the 1977 International Convention by Sis. Heather Du'Pratt who returned with a collection of the talks on tape for the cassette library. Furthermore, Bro. M. K. Khalik returned from the United Kingdom Convention with interesting experiences. At Jogjakarta, Singapore was represented by Sis. Gertrude Weerekoon who returned with notes on the talks delivered.

Visiting Theosophists included Sis. Emiko Tanaka of Japan, Bro. Neill Edgar and his family from New Zealand, Sis. Cleo Gregorio from the Philippines, Sis. Annie Tjioe from Adyar, Bro. Van Dijlers and his wife from Holland, and Bep Goetnakers-Verbiest from Holland. The members were pleased to receive Prof. and Mrs. Bainbridge de Beauvoir from California.

Pacific Federation of Lodges.—It was decided by the Committee to postpone joining the above Federation

until the accommodation problem of Singapore Lodge has been satisfactorily solved so as to handle an influx of visitors and enquirers from the public, which such a participation would stimulate.

Fund Raising.—The Fund-Raising Committee has exhaustively been exploring and implementing ways of raising funds, visiting properties and investigating their potential as Lodge premises throughout the year. To date, the sole source of income has been through contributions from members, and the sale of dried fruit and nuts to members by Bro. Sim. Some investigation has been made to widen this range of health foods. Also, a small profit from sale of T.S. books has contributed to the Building Fund, which has grown to S. \$ 48,618.52. Efforts have continued in search of new premises.

In closing, we would like to thank all our members, guest speakers and supporters who have warmed the Lodge with their presence and enthusiasm.

EDWIN J. D'SOUZA,
President.

HONG KONG

Hong Kong Lodge:

The members of Committee of Hong Kong Lodge for the year 1978 were elected as followings:

President, Rev. Yen Why; *Vice-President*, Brother L. Clark; *Hon. Secretary and Treasurer*, Brother P. Y. Ko; *Librarian*, Dr. R. Ching; *Committee Members*, Brothers T. V. Zung, T. C. Zung, J. Panjabi, K. S. Sze, K. K. Tam and Henry Fok; *Lodge Members*, Dr. Hans Tang, Brothers P. S. Malhi, T. T. Ko and Henry Lee; *Singapore Lodge Member*, Brother T. C. Shu.

Weekly Lectures.—The public weekly

lectures on Buddhism given by our President Rev. Yen Why were held every Saturday afternoon by our Lodge in conjunction with The World Fellowship of Buddhists Hong Kong and Macau Regional Centre from February to July, 1978 at The Grace Cottage Vegetarian House, Hong Kong. There are about fifty in the audience including some Europeans on each occasion.

Ch'an Meditation Assemblies.—The Ch'an Meditation Assemblies sponsored by our Lodge were held every Sunday morning from April to September 1978 at Ting Wai Monastery, Taipo, New

Territories. There were about thirty participants including our members Rev. Yen Why, P. Y. Ko, T. V. Zung, K. S. Sze, R. Ching, and Henry Lee in each gathering.

W. F. B. 12th General Conference.—Our President, Rev. Yen Why and Hon. Secretary Brother P. Y. Ko both were invited to take part in the 12th General Conference of The World Fellowship of Buddhists to be held in Tokyo and Kyoto, Japan on 1st to 6th October, 1978 by the Japan Buddhist Federation. Un-

fortunately, due to their busy programme they were unable to spare the time for visiting the Theosophical Society, Nippon Lodge, in Tokyo during their stay in Japan.

Foreign Friends.—In the year 1978, we welcomed our foreign friends who visited our Lodge. They were Mr. M. L. Croft of South Africa, Mr. N. K. Mcdaid and Miss Susan Duncan of The Theosophical Society, United Kingdom, and Elizabeth Garvin of London Buddhist Society.

P. Y. Ko,
Secretary

JAPAN

Nippon Lodge, Tokyo:

We had two big meetings this year. One was our Conference which was held in Tokyo on May 5th and 6th. About 150 people participated. There were some lectures, work-shops and slide shows. Participants had the choice of joining workshops dealing with topics such as healing, Agni Yoga, the way of white occultism, etc. We showed slides of *Thought Forms* and those of paintings of Nicholas Roerich given to us by Mr. Michael Breen of Sydney.

The other meeting was the Theosophical Conference in Indonesia. Mrs. Yasuko Nishio and I joined this meeting. The Conference was really wonderful. I liked Indonesia and the Indonesian people very much. It was my greatest joy that we could communicate with so many foreign friends, and share a real sense of fraternal love.

Meetings.—We have our regular meetings every second Sunday and every third Saturday. Besides these, we have the Agni Yoga study group which meets twice a month. Another T.S. study group meets monthly.

Study.—We are studying the abridgement of the *Secret Doctrine* at the Saturday meetings. At the Sunday meetings

I am explaining *The Voice of the Silence*. The other T.S. study group is reading and translating *Occult Conversation* by Judge.

Translation.—In the monthly magazine, I have been translating *When Daylight Comes* by Howard Murphet. As I finished the translation of *Devachan* this April, I began translating *Man and His Bodies* by Annie Besant. I have also begun to translate the third volume of the Agni Yoga Teaching Community.

Publication.—*Clairvoyance* was published in March 1978. Now I have finished the last proof-reading of *Invisible Helpers*. It will appear by November.

Foreign Friends.—This year we have not had so many foreign friends in Tokyo.

Mr. Michael Breen who gave us a marvelous present of the slides of Nicholas Roerich's paintings, came to Tokyo a little before I left for Indonesia. Mr. Stephen Orescan came to Tokyo just one day before my departure. I had been looking forward to meeting him in early September, but he came to Japan half a month early. I felt very sorry that I could do so little for him.

EMIKO TANAKA,
President.

BANGLADESH

Comilla Lodge, Comilla:

The Comilla Theosophical Lodge established in 1889 is one of the oldest of its kind. It had the privilege of being under the Presidentship of His Highness Prince Nabadwip Chandra Deb Barma Bahadur of Tripura and later on other distinguished persons of the District.

Thanks go to the Theosophical Society, International HQ which was kind enough to send us the first instalment of 19 valuable books on Theosophy to replenish the depleted stock of books in this Lodge.

There were in all 53 sittings of the

Lodge during the year under review including special sittings on the occasions of White Lotus Day and some other special occasions—all of which were fairly well attended. The subjects discussed in the sittings were varied and wide enough. Studies included scriptures of various religions, "On the Watchtower" and other articles from *The Theosophist*, the lives of great teachers and extracts from theosophical literature.

Each meeting commenced with theosophical prayer, members standing.

The Lodge now has 29 members

RASHMOHAN CHAKRABORTY,
President.

CAMEROON

Fako Lodge, Douala:

Fako Lodge has joined in the quest for the new consciousness. With a handful of seven members scattered around the country and meeting only twice as a body, it is a group of determined people yeked together under the banner of Theosophy, yet having the vaguest ideas about Theosophy itself.

Still awaiting books and other materials from Adyar; without a postal address or stationery; lacking finance; unable to advertize because we are not yet registered with the local authorities, our lodge has not progressed as much as envisaged.

New members want to know what this Theosophy is about before they can join. The few who have applied are close friends who have read about Theosophy from small pamphlets or are those who have been recommended to us by other Theosophists abroad. We are now 14 members on the roll. We share our experiences together. Physical differences are not a problem to us here; we are not only Africa in miniature, but also the world in miniature. Like H. P. B., we are pioneers for Theosophy here.

CLETUS ST. NDIFOR,
Secretary.

WORLD FEDERATION OF YOUNG THEOSOPHISTS

No Report

HEADQUARTERS

ADYAR, MADRAS 600020

OFFICERS

1 October 1978

Executive Committee:

- | | | |
|------------------------------|---|-------------------|
| (1) THE PRESIDENT | } | <i>Ex-officio</i> |
| (2) THE VICE-PRESIDENT | | |
| (3) THE SECRETARY | | |
| (4) THE TREASURER | | |
| (5) MRS. RADHA BURNIER | | |
| (6) LT. COL. R. GOPALARATNAM | | |
| (7) MR. ROBIN KEEFE | | |
| (8) MR. K. N. RAMANATHAN | | |
| (9) MR. C. SESHADRI | | |
| (10) MR. K. VISVANATHAN | | |

Adyar Library: DIRECTOR: MRS. RADHA BURNIER.

LIBRARIAN: MRS. SEETHA NEELAKANTAN.

Archives: MISS CARIN CITROEN.

Bhojanasala: SUPERINTENDENT: MISS C. SUDHA.

General Manager: MR. C. SESHADRI.

Garden Department: SUPERINTENDENT: MR. GOPALAKRISHNAN.

Information Department: MR. ROBIN KEEFE.

Leadbeater Chambers: SUPERINTENDENT: MR. NEIL STEWART.

Legal Adviser:

Maintenance Department: SUPERINTENDENT: MR. CH. SANKAR RAO.

Medical and Sanitary Department: MEDICAL OFFICER: DR. S. V. JOSEPH.

Movable Properties Department: CUSTODIAN: MR. NARANJI KEVAT.

Public Relations Officer: MR. ROBIN KEEFE.

The Theosophical Publishing House: MANAGER: MR. K. N. RAMANATHAN.

The Theosophist: ASSISTANT EDITOR: MR. JOHN CLARKE.

The Vasanta Press: MANAGER: MR. K. RAMANATHAN.

Watch and Ward Department: SUPERINTENDENT: SUBEDAR G. SAMBASIVAN.

THE THEOSOPHICAL PUBLISHING HOUSE

The Theosophical Publishing House has been concentrating during the year on the production of the two-volume definitive edition of *The Secret Doctrine*, edited by Mr. Boris de Zirkoff, the best known authority today on Madame Blavatsky's writings. This fact, that Mr. de Zirkoff is in charge of its editing, makes the book acceptable to all schools of thought in the Theosophical Movement. The first volume of 696 pages was printed during the year, and Wheaton's requirements of the book have been exported to them in sheets, to be bound there. At the time of preparing this report some 450 pages of the second volume of 800 pages have been printed. It is hoped to release the two volumes with the index, which will constitute the third volume, by the middle of 1979.

Mr. de Zirkoff's historical introduction to the book, narrating "how *The Secret Doctrine* was written" was printed as a separate book and has had an excellent reception. It forms a good curtain raiser to the new two-volume edition.

To commemorate the birth centenary of Dr. G. S. Arundale, three of his books were reprinted in Arundale Centenary Editions during the year—*Nirvana*, *Mount Everest* and *Kundalini*. Dr. Besant's English rendering of *The Mahābhārātā*, one of the great epics of Hinduism, has also been reprinted. It is based on notes of talks delivered by Dr. Besant to students of the Central Hindu College in Varanasi and is marked by her deep and reverent understanding of Hinduism. Another book reprinted to meet persistent demands from readers

is *The Gospel of Zarathushtra* by Duncan Greenlees. Zoroastrian scholars have described this book as a unique masterpiece. Altogether there were five new publications and 20 reprints during the year.

Imports of theosophical books from Wheaton and London increased during the year, and a large number of Quest Books titles are now available to booksellers and the reading public in India through T. P. H.

The T. P. H. had the highest turnover of business in its history this year, passing the Rs. 600,000 mark. During the five years since 1973 the turnover has risen by Rs. 243,000.

The International Theosophical Publishing Conference held at Durham in August was a landmark in theosophical publishing activities. This was the sixth of the International Publishing Conferences and it was attended by representatives of seven publishing houses, and observers from a number of Sections. Non-English publishing interests were well-represented in addition to the three English publishing houses. The International Vice-President, Miss Joy Mills, presided. The field of theosophical publishing in its various aspects was studied at the Conference. The meetings were very valuable for the exchange of views that they facilitated and for the greater understanding and cooperation between theosophical publishing interests that was promoted thereby.

The Theosophist, in its new format, attractive cover and with graphics to illustrate the articles and add reader interest has now come out in its present

form for fifteen months. There has been both praise and criticism of the journal in its new form, and its producers have benefited by both and acknowledge their gratitude for all the valuable guidance they have thus received. The circulation has risen by twenty percent in these 15 months. Thanks to the initiative of the General Secretary in East and Central Africa, Mr. H. M. Chhaya, the entire supply of *The Theosophist* to that Section

is now being flown by air, thus cutting down time taken in transit from about two months to ten days. The time lag caused by surface mail transport has been perhaps the biggest hindrance in the way of an increase in the journal's circulation, and East Africa has removed the obstacle as far as that Section is concerned.

K. N. RAMANATHAN,
Manager.

THE ADYAR LIBRARY AND RESEARCH CENTRE

The Library has had another year of useful work. *Amarakośa*, vol. 2.1, containing the third Kāṇḍa of the text with the commentaries of Liṅgayasūrin, Mallinātha and Bommagaṇṭi Appayārya was completed and released during the year. With the publication of index-cum-glossary now in preparation, the library will be completing the project of publication of some of the rare MSS., undertaken in 1960 with aid from the Ministry of Education and Social Welfare, Delhi.

A further list of rare works for publication with similar aid has been submitted to the Ministry. It is hoped that during 1979 the library will be able to start work on this scheme as well as the reconstruction of Tibetan into Sanskrit of some of the Sanskrit works in the Kanjur and Tanjur MSS.

STAFF:

The library welcomes Mr. Pran Nath as Assistant Librarian and Mrs. Lakshmi Narayanaswami as assistant in the Cataloguing section.

PUBLICATIONS:

Besides vol. 2. 1. of the *Amarakośa*, and the translation of *Samnyāsa Upaniṣads* (ALS 104), the following publications were released during the year: Nāgārjuna's *Mūlamadhyamakakārika* by Dr. J. W. de Jong (ed.) (ALS 109), *Jīvanmuktiviveka* (Adyar Library General Series No. 6), and *Science of Criticism in India* by Dr. A. K. Warder (Adyar Library General Series No. 7).

The *Vaiṣṇava Upaniṣad-s* with the Advaitic commentary is almost completed with only index and detailed contents remaining to be done. It is hoped to

release this by the end of 1979. The text portions of *Rasārṇavasudhākara* on poetics is completed and only the English introduction and index remain to be done.

The Adyar Library Bulletin: The volume for 1978 (vol. 42) includes papers by well-known indologists such as Dr. J. D. M. Derrett of London University, Dr. Solomon of the University of Washington, U. S. A., Dr. Madhav Deshpande of the University of Michigan, and others on subjects such as Ancient Hindu Public Law, Unholy Rivers in India, Pāṇinian Grammarians, interpretation of some verses and words in the *Gītā*, the eight Siddhi-s listed in Yoga and some features of *Vākyapadiya*, a classic text on grammar. The journal also includes translations of: chapters 1-2 of *Kumāratantra*, a Śaiva Āgama work, by Dr. K. V. Zvelebil of Utrecht University, and Annapūrsopaniṣad of the *Sāmānya Vedānta Upaniṣad-s* by Dr. A. C. Krishna Warriar; and the Sanskrit text of *Ārṣa-prayogasādhutvanirūpaṇam* edited by Dr. K. Kunjunni Raja.

The Bulletin has now 110 exchanges and 141 subscribers.

SERVICES RENDERED:

During the year under report microfilms of 16 MSS. and 22 books besides photostat copies of 3 books were supplied to various institutions and research scholars.

Transcripts in Devanagari of 18 MSS. were prepared on request from Indologists and research institutions.

Works used: The Library records 535 readers, 68 resident borrowers, 197

borrowers from the city and 25 Braille borrowers out of which only 5 utilize the loan facilities regularly. During the year 2,284 MSS. and 30,719 books including journals were consulted in the library; 7,151 books and 7 MSS. were loaned out.

Research Scholars: The number of research scholars and serious students using the library's valuable collections increases every year. Besides those from the universities and Indology institutions in India, numbering 55, Professors/Lecturers came from Universities of Hamilton, Calgary and Manitoba (Canada); Durham and School of Oriental and African Studies, London, (England); Pittsburgh, South Carolina, Catholic (Washington), California and State Polytech (U. S. A.); Erlangen (W. Germany); and French National Centre of Scientific Research (Sanskrit), Paris (France.)

REPAIR AND PRESERVATION:

During the year 906 books (inc. pamphlets) and 265 journals were bound, while 37 books and 40 MSS. were repaired; 24 books, 1 paper MS. and 1 vol. of *New India* were laminated.

ACQUISITION AND CATALOGUING:

Books: During the year 2,187 books were added to the collection. Out of these 100 were purchased, 24 were exchanged, 75 were review books and the rest were gifts. Our grateful thanks go to: Mrs. Radha Burnier 479 on history, civilization, linguistics, occultism, literature, etc., from the collections of C. W. Leadbeater and C. Jinarājadāsa; Ministry of Education and Social Welfare, New Delhi 246, mostly Indological texts and studies; J. B. S. Coats 199 on varied subjects; P. R. Thiruvangadam 98, many of which are rare books on Indological studies; through the

international President's office 68; *Theosophist* Office 49; S. S. Haksar 44; Mrs. S. Neelakantan 34; Social Science Documentation Centre, Delhi 31; Miss Joy Mills 22; and N. Janakiram 14. To all these and many others we extend our sincere thanks.

We also express our thanks to the following who continue to send complimentary copies of their publications to the library; Theosophical Publishing House, Adyar (15), London (6), and Wheaton (47), Point Loma Publications, Inc., San Diego, U. S. A. (5), The Theosophical Book Association for the Blind, Ojai, Calif., U. S. A. (94).

MSS: The balance of 37 out of 54 bundles donated last year by Dr. A. N. Akuljkar have been catalogued. A bundle of loose leaves not belonging to any of the catalogued ones is now being examined to be classified.

Book Cataloguing: We are glad to report that all books in the Indian literature section including the Sanskrit books have been reclassified with extensive references. Work has begun in the section on civilization, history, geography, and biography.

DONATIONS:

The library expresses its thanks to Mrs. Radha Burnier for Rs. 1,000.00 worth of books. Other donors are: Institute of Eclectic Society, London, Rs. 3,000.00; Miss Mary Graham, New Zealand, Rs. 5,000.00; Dan Haaq Lodge, Theosophical Society in Netherlands, Rs. 270.00.

VISITORS:

Amongst the large number of visitors who visited the Library mention may be made of: Dr. S. Sankaranarayanan, Director, Oriental Research Institute, Sri Venkateswara University, Tirupati; Mr. Hasanuddin Ahmed, Dy. Secretary,

Ministry of Law, Govt. of India, New Delhi; Dr. Esther A. Solomon, School of Languages, Gujarat University, Ahmedabad; Dr. Tom G. Kessinger, Ford Foundation, New Delhi; and Mr. R. C. Dogra, Assistant Librarian (South Asia), School of Oriental and African

Studies, University of London, London.

The Library extends its grateful thanks to Dr. V. Raghavan and Dr. K. Kunjunn Raja for their valuable help as Advisers and members of the Editorial Board.

SEETHA NEELAKANTAN,
Librarian.

THE THEOSOPHICAL ISLAMIC ASSOCIATION

It gives us great pleasure in presenting the following report of the Theosophical Islamic Association for the year 1977-78.

The Theosophical Islamic Association which is an allied activity of the Theosophical Society has completed fifty-six years of existence. The International President of the T.S., Mr. John B. S. Coats, is the patron of the Association. It is a registered Society with its Headquarters at the T.S., Adyar, Madras 600020. Its objects are:

1. To encourage the study of Islam and Islamic Mysticism (Sufism) in the light of Theosophy.
2. To facilitate the study of Comparative Religion, Philosophy, Arts and Sciences among the Muslims.
3. To organise lectures, publish books, maintain libraries and institutions for the advancement of the above objects.

At the Headquarters the usual study of the Quran and lectures were organised during the year. Mr. C. R. N. Swamy took classes on the study of the Quran which were very much appreciated. The convention lectures was delivered by Dr. U. Muhammed, the Vice-President, on "The Message of Islam". Dr. B. R. Mullik, Mr. Deva Natarajan, Mr. Côme Carpentier and others gave lectures.

The Life President, Prof. H. E. Hakim, who is also a National Lecturer of the Indian Section of the Theosophical Society, gave talks at various places during his tours in addition to his usual lectures. In March 1978, in Delhi he spoke at the Indraprastha Lodge on "Theosophy in Iqbal's poetry"; at one Agra Mosque he gave talks after Friday prayers as well as in the Madrasa-e-Alia; he spoke on "Sufism" in the Agra Lodge of the Theosophical Society where a few members Dr. Gopinath, Dr. Mohammad Sayeed, Mr. Raesuddin Chaudhari and Mr. S. K. Kuleshreshtha joined the Association. At Bareilly Mr. Lalit Kumar Sethi and Prof. Joneja and in Varanasi Mr. Shamin Ahmed joined.

In April, Prof. Hakim presided over the Annual Conference of the Kerala Federation of the Theosophical Society at Calicut and there Mr. K. Abu Baker, Mr. V. P. Abu Baker and Mr. N. K. Kadar Koya joined the Association; and a branch of the Association has been formed with other members of the Society at the Calicut Lodge. They carry on the study of the Quran and organise lectures in the Calicut lodge.

In the months of August and September he went on a lecture tour of Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat and Bombay Federations. He spoke on Theosophy and Islam at the Ujjain lodge and addressed students of Madrasa-e-Ishaqiya at Jodhpur. In Ajmer he contacted some scholars of Sufism, enrolled 8 members, and formed a Branch of the Theosophical Islamic Association; Messrs Sahibzada S. M. Yunus Mathur, Niamat Ali, Ghulam Muhammad, M. S. Mehraj Chishty, Narandra Kumar Mathur, Raja Munis Syed, S. Tanweer Ahmed Chishty and Mirza W. D. Begg joined the T. S. Islamic Association and constituted a branch with Mr. Yunus Mathur as its Secretary.

In the course of this year the President had correspondence with Mr. Kenneth Ba Sein of Rangoon Lodge of the Burmese Section of the T.S. and in his letter of June 1978,

he states that a Crescent Lodge has been formed with a number of scholars and professors who are also interested in Sufism; they meet twice a month for lectures and meditation. It is hoped that the Rangoon branch will flourish under the able guidance of an experienced Theosophist like Mr. Kenneth Ba Sein.

In Pakistan, Mrs. Gool Minwalla, the Vice-President of the Association has had the *Key to Theosophy* translated and printed in Urdu. She has been doing excellent work to propagate the Wisdom of Theosophy in that country and has a plan to get more books on Theosophy translated into Urdu. Mr. Hasanuddin Ahmed, I.A.S., of the Government of India, has expressed his willingness to translate our books into Urdu.

We are also happy to report that Dr. Jean Raymond, during her overseas tour, visited Egypt and contacted the Lodge, Al-Hikmet Al-Kadima, and had a discussion about the work. We are in contact with them and hope a branch of the Association will begin there also.

In Bombay there are a few life members of the Association, and recently Mr. Khwaja Kutubuddin has taken interest in the work of the Association; it is hoped that under the guidance of Dr. A. Karim Naik and others a branch of the Association will shortly be formed in Bombay also during the year.

There are very few publications on Islam and Sufism in the T.S.; they are: *The Gospel of Islam* by Duncan Greenlees, *Beauties of Islam* by Dr. Annie Besant, *Islam and Sufism in the Light of Theosophy* by Prof. H. E. Hakim. We have a plan to publish and reprint many books for the use of members and scholars who approach us for deeper knowledge of Islam and Islamic Mysticism if funds permit; lectures are held at the Headquarters and the branches of the Association regularly by learned speakers; seminars and elocution competitions can also be held.

Much remains to be done; our target of enrolling 100 life members yet remains to be achieved, and ordinary members do not revive their membership; moreover from last December the Association has to pay a rent of Rs. 480 per year to the T.S. So it is hoped sympathisers and members of the Society will come forward in greater numbers to help the Association for the study of Islam and Sufism and to present Islam in the light of Theosophy to the world. At present the President of the Association is bearing most of its expenses and makes good its present deficit of about Rs. 500.00.

Membership fees of the Association are Rs. 5 only for those who are not members of the T.S. and Rs. 2 per year for the members of the Indian Section and those below 25 years of age. Life Membership is Rs. 100. Those who desire to become members may write to the undersigned for application forms and other particulars.

We are very thankful to the Theosophical Society for allowing us to work in its premises; and are grateful to the President Mr. John B. S. Coats and the Estate Management for their cooperation in organising lectures and functions. It is hoped that other sections of the Theosophical Society and Federations in India will help the Association by encouraging members to join it and form branches in their areas.

H. E. HAKIM,
President.

THE THEOSOPHICAL ORDER OF SERVICE

Dr. Besant wrote in *The Theosophist* of November 1916 under the title *The Wider Outlook*:

"I suppose that I was chosen as the President of the Society in order to bring it more to the front in physical plane activities, for which my whole previous life had been a preparation; moreover the educational work into which I had thrown myself, the institution of the Order of the Sons and Daughters of India, the movement against child parentage, and the advocacy of foreign travel for Hindus, with various other lines of work, had rendered it fairly plain that to me Theosophical work included all beneficent activities, and that I was striving to carry out the injunction in a letter from a Member of the Occult Hierarchy, published by H. P. B., that '*Theosophy must be made practical*' and that '*in the neighbourhood of a Theosophical lodge there should be a sensible diminution of poverty and misery.*' (Italics mine, G.M.K.)

"Holding these views, I established in February 1908, six months after my election as President, the Theosophical Society's Order of Service, with the motto 'A Union of all who love for the Service of all who suffer.'"

In the Supplement to *The Theosophist* of February 1908, Dr. Besant laid down a tentative (and rather complicated) Constitution for the Order. It envisaged a Central Council consisting of Fellows of the Theosophical Society only and having its seat at Adyar. It was to have, as its Chief Officer, the President of the Society or someone deputed by him.

A National Council was to be formed in any country in which seven Provincial Councils were established: a Provincial Council could be formed wherever there were seven Local Councils. The Chairman of the National Council was to be appointed from among the members of a Local Council. The energy that would have been needed to build up and maintain all this administration might well have been at the expense of more practical work and the proposed Constitution was never implemented.

At present, the President of the Theosophical Society is *ex officio* International President of the Theosophical Order of Service, assisted by its International Secretary; a member of the T.S. Treasury keeps the financial records.

In December 1954, N. Sri Ram (the then President) wrote:

"I understand that I am the Head of the T.O.S. in my capacity as President of the T.S. The General Council has never discussed the affairs of the T.O.S. so far as I know and we need not bring it into the work, as that would make the organization more complex. As far as I know there are no international rules which have been written down or printed for the T.O.S.

"I have felt the need of a simple organization which is generally accepted, and will enable the T.O.S. to function with the same freedom and at the same time express the same deep Theosophical spirit in all its activities as is the case now..."

And that is exactly what has happened. The organization is kept as simple as possible; only the nomination of a

National Director is in the hands of the International President. And all the time that would otherwise have gone into meetings, elections, etc., can now be used for discussions on how to help most effectively.

The only part of the work that needs to be organized is that of the League of Healing. For those who are interested there are two brochures: *General Principles*, explaining the work, and *The Ritual*, both of which are available at the International Headquarters of the T.O.S. in Adyar.

As International Secretary, I report twice a year on the work, in bulletins sent out in March and October. These are sent to all the National Directors and to the General Secretaries of the Theosophical Society and they are available on demand. However, I will detail briefly the information given in the bulletin No. 8.

At the European Congress at Durham, the Director for Europe, Greta Eedle, stated that it was encouraging to find so much activity both through the organized groups and by individuals acting independently. Young Tibetans and other displaced persons were helped as were animal welfare and vegetarian organizations.

A plea is made to extend our influence to other spheres of activity, for example, to help stem the deterioration in language and morals which is noticeable in the mass media and in daily life.

Eduardo Weaver of Brazil reports enthusiastically about the activity of the

T. O. S. in his country, where a new branch was formed in São Paulo. He says, "It is amazing how the movement is spreading its roots. Every day, new ideas spring up and I can see that a new spirit is being born among the Brazilian Theosophists. The work in groups has united people more than ever. At the end of July the first seminar was held of the new Scientific Research Centre, lasting three days with over 150 people attending. The level of the talks was very high and the atmosphere was beautiful. All the work was done spontaneously and love was radiating from all sides. The age gap broke down."

Argentina has a Home for abandoned children with twenty-nine girls and forty-six boys. Healing groups are very active there, particularly in Rosario and Buenos Aires.

Australian members are very active and in New Zealand the work includes efforts to prevent the killing of seal pups in Canada.

France continues its splendid help in sending milk powder (three tons this year), medicines and clothes, mainly to AuMoryaPur in Adyar.

Switzerland is, among other things helping nine students of the H. P. B. hostel in Adyar.

If you have new ideas for another pamphlet on *World Campaign for Compassion and Understanding* please put them into words and send them in.

GUSTA M. KOOPMAN.
International Secretary.

INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

At Adyar.—The Register of Scientifically Qualified Members has now on its rolls 170 members. The members have been classified according to their basic scientific qualifications and additional interests in relation to Theosophy. This list will be circulated to the members for exchange of information and ideas. To encourage the study of scientific developments in the light of Theosophy a section of *The Theosophist* will henceforward be devoted to such publications regularly. At the 1977 International Convention, Dr. B. Ramamurti, an eminent neurosurgeon, spoke on "Brain and Consciousness". In collaboration with COSTED (Committee on Science and Technology in Developing Countries), the Theosophical Society is organizing from 10-12 January 1979 the Seminar on "Impact of Science on Human Values." Forty scientists and Theosophists will take part in the discussions.

National Sections.—A breakthrough in theosophical research was featured in *Theosophy-Science*, international journal published from London by the Theosophical Society, by highlighting the discoveries of Dr. S. Phillips on the relationship of Quarks to the Occult Chemistry Atoms. Dr. E. Lester Smith commended this achievement as "a perfect and complete explanation of occult chemistry in terms of the most recent hypotheses in atomic physics." Articles on the same subject were also published in *The Theosophist*.

The Theosophical World Trust for Education and Research has supported during 1977/78 the science activities of the Theosophical Research Centre, England, and the Science Study Groups in India and Holland. The annual meeting of the Research Centre was held in May

1978. Prof A. J. Ellison, Chairman of the Centre, spoke on "Mystical Experience and the Scientific Method" and "Mystics and Scientists". He also toured part of Canada and the U.S.A., and found many leading investigators in psychic research having a theosophical background although they were not members of the T. S.

In U.S.A., the Theosophical Research Institute has made a good beginning with Mr. Herbert Lubitz as Chairman, and the Seminar on the Tao of Physics was held with the participation of Dr. Fritjof Capra, Dr. Melvin and Dr. Renée Weber. The Theosophical Therapy Project at the California Institute of Asian Studies is financed by the Kern foundation. Envisaged as a three year investigation into the appropriate inter-relations of the theosophical and depth psychology traditions, the project is directed by Dr. Paul Herman assisted by six researchers.

In India the Theosophy Science Study Group has expanded the Bulletin to circulate five times a year. *The Theoscientist* has been published from Bhubaneswar, Orissa during the last two years with Dr. R. C. Rath as editor.

Other Sections including Australia and New Zealand continue to be active in the field of Theosophy/Science. The Brazilian Section has started a Science Group including many young scientists and with Mr Eduardo Weaver as the Leader. A Seminar was organized in July 1978. There are other Service Groups who are scientifically oriented and the Department of Ecological Research of the T.O.S. in America published an interesting T.O.S. *Eco-Letter*.

A. KANNAN,
Secretary.

INTERNATIONAL THEOSOPHICAL YOUTH CENTRE

At a meeting of the General Council, held 3rd January 1977, i.e., two years ago, it was resolved "that the International Theosophical Youth Centre be continued for a further two years, and that it should aim at being a voluntary, self-administered and financially self-supporting youth-oriented body, although a small grant may be considered."

During the past two years, the I.T.Y.C. has managed to be active and alive, and to support itself mainly through donations received, through small profits from selling teas in the Tea-House, and through payments and donations received for the magazine *Phoenix Rising*.

The activities could be grouped in three categories:

Activities within Adyar:

- (a) The Tea-House has been kept open three or four times a week, for periods of a few months continuously. Different herb teas and biscuits were served, and during a period also sandwiches. Western and Indian classical music was played. In this way the Tea-House became a meeting place for both residents and guests staying on the compound.
- (b) Concerts were arranged on several occasions and were well attended by all residents. Concerts were given by Palghat Mani Iyer (vocal music), Sri T. N. Ramachandran (vina), an Australian family of bellringers, etc.
- (c) Sufi-dancing, a form of meditation in action, was organized on numer-

ous occasions, with the active participation of everyone present.

- (d) Music and song gatherings were often organized.

- (e) A meditation retreat was organized on one weekend, in which the participants observed silence for 24 hours.

2. World-wide or international activities:

- (a) World-wide correspondence has been kept up. Many useful contacts have been established in many countries, for the purpose of linking up all the various groups and individuals into an effective network for the exchange of ideas, news, sharing experiences, etc.

- (b) Nat Altman, in the function of Coordinator of the I.T.Y.C., toured Europe, visited groups in most European countries, and submitted a report on their activities.

- (c) An international camp was organized in Adyar, December 23-25th 1977, attended by about 50 participants.

- (d) A series of workshops, film shows, etc., is being planned for January 1979, immediately after the Convention. The workshops will be held in Adyar during the whole of January, and will actually be held in place of camp.

3. Publications:

- (a) A *Speaker's Course* has been published, in order to help members to learn how to present Theosophy and share it with others. It is

available to all groups and individuals throughout the world. The course was put together mainly thanks to the efforts of Nat Altman.

- (b) *Intercom*, an I.T.Y.C. newsletter, was published only once. It did not continue being published due to several difficulties which arose.
- (c) *Phoenix Rising*, an international quarterly magazine in English, was started in July 1978, when the first issue was officially released. Two issues have come out so far: the Summer and the Autumn one. The Winter issue is due early in 1979, and will probably be sent out in February.

Apart from a few criticisms, the first issue of *Phoenix* received a very warm welcome from members around the world. Many words of encouragement were received, as well as donations from

several enthusiastic readers and from many Sections. Due to an increased demand, the number of copies produced has already been increased from 2,000 to 3,500.

The new magazine serves as an international forum for the exchange of ideas, thoughts and experiences, and for keeping in continuous touch with groups around the world. Interesting experiences of any one group can be published in the magazine for the benefit of all other groups. Such a magazine was planned in the original proposal for two I.T.Y.C., dated 11th January 1976.

- (d) A number of circular letters were also sent out to encourage a more active contact between the different groups.

EMILIO TRAMPUŽ,
Coordinator.

MEMORANDUM
OF
ASSOCIATION, ETC.

CERTIFICATE OF INCORPORATION

No. 2 of 1905

I hereby certify, pursuant to Act XXI of 1860 of the Governor-General of India in Council entitled "An Act for the Registration of Literary, Scientific and Charitable Societies, 1860," that The Theosophical Society is duly incorporated as a Society under the aforesaid Act.



Station, Madras,
Dated 3rd April 1905.

(Sd) A. PERIYASWAMI MOODALIAR,
Registrar of Joint Stock Companies.

THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

FOUNDED NOVEMBER 17, 1875, INCORPORATED APRIL 3, 1905.

*In the matter of Act XXI of 1860 of the Acts of the Viceroy
and Governor-General of India in Council, being
an Act for the registration of literary,
scientific and charitable Societies*

and

IN THE MATTER OF THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

MEMORANDUM OF ASSOCIATION

1. The name of the Association is The Theosophical Society.

2. The objects for which the Society is established are:

I. To form a nucleus of the Universal Brotherhood of Humanity, without distinction of race, creed, sex, caste or colour.

II. To encourage the study of Comparative Religion, Philosophy, and Science.

III. To investigate unexplained laws of Nature and the powers latent in man.

(a) The holding and management of all funds raised for the above objects.

(b) The purchase or acquisition on lease or in exchange or on hire or by

gift or otherwise of any real or personal property, and any rights or privileges necessary or convenient for the purposes of the Society.

(c) The sale, improvement, management and development of all or any part of the property of the Society.

(d) The doing of all such things as are incidental or conducive to the attainment of the above objects or any of them, including the founding and maintenance of a library or libraries.

3. The names, addresses and occupations of the persons who are members of, and form the first General Council which is the governing body of the Society, are as follows:

GENERAL COUNCIL

Ex-Officio

President-Founder:—H. S. Olcott, Adyar, Madras, Author.

Vice-President:—A. P. Sinnett, London, England, Author.

Recording Secretary:—Hon. Sir S. Subramania Aiyar, Madras, Justice of the High Court.

Treasurer:—W. A. English, M.D., Adyar, Madras, Retired Physician.

Alexander Fullerton, General Secretary, American Section, 7, West 8th St., New York.

Upendra Nath Basu, B.A., LL.B., General Secretary, Indian Section, Benares, U.P.

Bertram Keightley, M.A., General Secretary, British Section, 28, Albemarle St., London, W.

W. G. John, General Secretary, Australasian Section, 42, Margaret Street, Sydney, N.S.W.

Arvid Knos, General Secretary, Scandinavian Section, Engelbrechtsgatan, 7, Stockholm, Sweden.

C. W. Sanders, General Secretary, New Zealand Section, Queen Street, Auckland, N.Z.

W. B. Fricke, General Secretary, Netherlands Section, 76, Amsteldijk, Amsterdam.

Th. Pascal, M.D., General Secretary, French Section, 59, Avenue de la Bourdonnais, Paris.

Decio Calvari, General Secretary, Italian Section, 380, Corso Umberto I., Rome.

Dr. Rudolf Steiner, General Secretary, German Section, 95, Kaiserallee, Friedenau, Berlin.

Jose M. Masso, Acting General Secretary, Cuban Section, Havana, Cuba.

Additional

Annie Besant, Benares, Author, [for 3 years].

G. R. S. Mead, London, Author, [for 3 years].

Khan Bahadur Naoroji Dorabji Khandalvala, Poona, Special Judge, [for 3 years].

Dinshaw Jivaji Edal Behram, Surat, Physician, [for 2 years].

Francesca E. Arundale, Benares, Author, [for 2 years].

Tammacharla Ramachandra Row, Gooty, Retired Sub-Judge, [for 1 year].

Charles Blech, Paris, France, Retired Manufacturer, [for 1 year].

4. Henry Steel Olcott, who with the late Helena Petrovna Blavatsky and others founded
The Founders

The Theosophical Society at New York, United States of America, in the year 1875, shall hold, during his lifetime, the position of President, with the title of "President-Founder," and he shall have, alone, the authority and responsibility and shall exercise the functions provided in the Rules and Regulations for the Executive Committee, meetings of which he may call for consultation and advice as he may desire.

5. The income and property of the
Income and property applied to promotion of objects Society, whencesoever derived, shall be applied solely towards the promotion of the objects of the Society as set forth in this Memorandum of Asso-

ciation, and no portion thereof shall be paid or transferred directly or indirectly by way of dividends, bonus, or otherwise by way of profits to the persons who at any time are or have been members of the Society or to any of them or to any person claiming through any of them: Provided that nothing herein contained shall prevent the payment in good faith of remuneration to any officers or servants of the Society or to any members thereof or other person in return for any services rendered to the Society.

6. No member or members of the
Members of General Council not answerable General Council shall be answerable for any loss arising in the administration or application of the said trust funds or sums of money or for any damage to or deterioration in the said

trust premises unless such loss, damage or deterioration shall happen by or through his or their wilful default or neglect.

7. If upon the dissolution of the Society there shall remain after the satisfaction of all its debts and liabilities any property whatsoever, the same shall not be paid to or distributed among the members of the Society or any of them but shall be given or transferred to some other Society or Association, Institution or Institutions, having objects similar to the objects of this Society, to be determined by the votes of not less than three-fifths of the members of the Society present personally or by proxy. Witnesses to the signatures:

(Sd.) WM. GLENNY KEAGEY ..
 „ ARTHUR RICHARDSON ..
 „ PYARE LAL ..
 „ PEROZE P. MEHERJEE ..

RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF THE ASSOCIATION NAMED "THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY," ADYAR, MADRAS

1. The General Council shall be the Governing Body of The Theosophical Society. All members of the General Council shall at all times be Fellows of the Society and not fewer than seven members of this Council shall be resident in India.

2. (a) The President, the Vice-President, the Treasurer, the Secretary and the General Secretaries of the component National Societies (otherwise called Sections) shall *ex-officio* be members of the General Council. The terms of those members of the General Council who hold office *ex-officio* shall expire with the vacation of their qualifying office.

(b) The General Council shall include not fewer than 5 and not more than

at a meeting called for the purpose, or in default thereof by such Judge or Court of Law as may have jurisdiction in the matter.

8. A copy of the Rules and Regulations of the said Theosophical Society is filed with this Memorandum of Association, and the undersigned being seven of the members of the Governing Body of the said Society do hereby certify that such copy of such Rules and Regulations of the said Theosophical Society is correct.

As witness our several and respective hands, this . . . day of March 1905.

{ (Sd.) H. S. OLCOTT
 „ W. A. ENGLISH
 „ SUBRAMANIAM
 { „ FRANCESCA E. ARUNDALE
 „ UPENDRANATH BASU
 „ ANNIE BESANT
 „ N. D. KHANDALVALA

12 Additional Members, among whom all past Presidents while in good standing shall automatically have place. Other members shall on the nomination of the President be elected for a term of three years by vote of the General Council at its Annual Meeting, their names having been sent to the Members of the General Council at least three months before the Annual Meeting.

(c) Members retiring shall be eligible for re-election.

(d) The Secretary shall be the Secretary of the General Council.

3. It shall be competent for the General Council to remove any of its members, or any officer of the Society excepting the President of The Theosophical Society and excepting the

Removal of
 General
 Council
 members and
 officers

General Secretaries of National Societies, by a three-fourths majority of its whole number of members, at a special meeting called for the purpose, of which at least three months' notice shall have been given, the quorum consisting, however, of not fewer than five members.

4. (a) The General Council shall ordinarily meet once a year, at the time of the Annual Meeting or Convention of the Society; but a special meeting may be called at any time by the President, and a meeting shall be called at any time by him, or if not by him, by the Secretary, on the written requisition of not less than one-fourth of the total number of members; but of such special meetings not less than three months' notice shall be given, and the notice shall contain a statement of the special business to be laid before the meeting.

(b) Whenever, at any time or place, a Convention or other function of the Society shall bring together a number of members of the General Council the President at his discretion may call such members to a meeting for the purpose of study and discussion of any matters concerning the Society that he considers appropriate to lay before them. The meeting may then forward to the President its report on such matters and may make recommendations thereon. Such meetings shall be of a consultative nature without administrative or legislative authority or may be of a legislative nature upon the decision of the General Council taken at least one year in advance.

In the event the President does not himself attend such a meeting he may appoint the Vice-President or some other member of the General Council to preside in his stead.

The President or his Deputy shall give not less than thirty days' notice of such

meeting to all members of the General Council who may be expected to be present at the function that provides occasion for the meeting, but all members of the Council shall have the right to attend.

5. (a) On the request of any member of the General Council any resolution or other item of business proposed by such member shall be placed on the Agenda, and circulated with brief supporting statements, for consideration at the next meeting of the General Council, provided that not less than six months' notice of such resolution or item of business shall be given to the Secretary.

(b) At all meetings of the General Council, members thereof may vote in person, or in writing, or by proxy duly given to another member of the General Council for the particular meeting concerned. Except as aforesaid no member shall exercise more than one vote. No member shall be allowed to exercise more than 5 proxy votes.

Note: Meetings include adjourned meetings.

6. The quorum of an ordinary as well as of a special meeting of the General Council shall be five members. If there be no quorum, the meeting may be adjourned *sine die*, or the Chairman of the meeting may adjourn it to another date, of which three months' further notice shall be given, when the business of the meeting shall be disposed of, irrespective of whether there is a quorum present or not.

7. The President, or in his absence the Vice-President, of the Society shall preside at all meetings of The Theosophical Society or of the General Council, and shall have a casting vote in the case of an equal division of the members voting on any question before the meeting.

8. In the absence of the President **Chairman** and the Vice-President, the meeting shall elect a chairman from among the members present at the meeting, and he shall have a casting vote in the case of a tie.

9. The term of office of the President **President's** shall be seven years from **term of office** the date of assuming office.

10. Seven months before the expiration **Election of** of a President's term of **President** office, or within three days of the office becoming vacant, the Executive Committee shall ensure that the Secretary or other person appointed by the Committee calls for nominations for the office of President from the members of the General Council by air-mail and at the same time by ordinary mail. Any member of the Society in good standing may be nominated. Each member of the General Council shall be entitled to make three nominations, but each member of the General Council who is a General Secretary, Regional Secretary or Organizing Secretary, shall consult his Governing Body before making nominations. The written consent of the member nominated shall be necessary for the validity of the nomination. It shall be the responsibility of the nominator to see that his nominations, and also the written consent of the nominees, reach the Secretary within three months of the date of the call for nominations. No nominee shall be put on the voting list unless supported by at least five nominations.

At the expiration of three months, the Secretary shall place all the nominations received, together with the relevant papers, before the Executive Committee at a meeting especially convened for the purpose. At such meeting the Executive Committee shall examine the nominations. The names of the nominees qualified to be on the voting

list shall be listed in alphabetical order. This list shall be the voting list and shall not be subject to challenge.

The Secretary shall then immediately communicate by air-mail (and at the same time by ordinary mail) the voting list, together with the names of the nominators of the respective candidates to the General Secretaries, Regional Secretaries, Organizing Secretaries and Presidential Representatives and to the Lodges (Branches) and Fellows-at-large attached to Headquarters. Each General Secretary, Regional Secretary, Organizing Secretary and Presidential Representative shall make known the names of the candidates and their respective nominators to the members in his area and take the votes of the individual members on the rolls of his National Society or area of administration at the close of the last official year of the Section or area who have been members of the Society in good standing for at least one year immediately prior to the close of the said official year and shall communicate the result to the Secretary who shall himself take the votes of the members of the Lodges (Branches) and Fellows-at-large attached to Headquarters at the close of the last official year of the Society, who have been members of the Society in good standing for at least one year immediately prior to the close of the said official year. If only one name remains on the voting list, the subsequent vote shall be taken on a "For" or "Against" ballot.

At the expiration of three months from the date of issue of the voting list by the Secretary, the voting returns shall be totalled by him. The Executive Committee shall appoint two of its members as scrutineers. The Candidate receiving the largest number of votes shall be declared elected President and he shall assume office thirty days thereafter. In the event of a tie, or of the rejection of a

single candidate in a "For" or "Against" ballot, or of a candidate on the voting list dying or being so seriously incapacitated as to be unable to carry out the Presidential duties if elected, after the despatch of the voting list and before the final totalling of votes by the Secretary, the nomination and election procedure shall be repeated, and the President in office or the Vice-President if he is temporarily filling such office, shall continue therein until a new President assumes office.

Note: A member is in good standing if his dues to the International Society have been paid for the last official year.

11. (a) Within three months of assuming office the President shall nominate the Vice-President, subject to confirmation by the General Council. His term of office shall be at the discretion of the President but when the Vice-President has been three years in office that office shall become vacant by the passage of time and the President, within three months, shall again make a nomination and submit it to the General Council. Notwithstanding this provision the Vice-President shall remain in office and his term shall continue until a successor has been nominated and confirmed. The Vice-President in office may be renominated. It shall be his duty, among other things, to carry on the executive functions of the President in case the President is dead or where the Executive Committee finds that he is disabled by accident, serious illness or otherwise from performing the duties of the President.

(b) Notwithstanding anything herein contained the Vice-President doing the duties of the President shall continue to be the Vice-President of the Society until a new Vice-President has been nominated and his nomination confirmed by

the General Council. In case of death, resignation or disability of such Vice-President doing the duties of the President, the Executive Committee shall appoint a Vice-President who shall hold office until the new President shall have nominated a new Vice-President and his nomination be confirmed by the General Council.

12. The President shall appoint the Treasurer, the Secretary and such subordinate officials as he may find necessary, which appointments shall be reported to the Executive Committee for consideration at its next following meeting, and shall become valid if approved by a majority of votes of the whole number at the said meeting, the newly appointed officials not being present nor counting as members of the Executive Committee for purposes of such votes. The Executive Committee may remove any of these appointees, by a vote of three-fourths of the whole number of its members. In this event, the President shall make a new appointment.

13. The Treasurer, Secretary and subordinate officials being assistants to the President in his capacity as executive officer of the General Council, the President shall have the authority to remove any appointee to such offices.

14. (a) The General Council shall at each Annual Meeting appoint an Executive Committee for the ensuing year or until its next Annual Meeting, of not less than seven and not more than ten members, of whom at least six shall be members of the General Council. The President, the Vice-President, the Treasurer, and the Secretary shall be *ex-officio* members. Vacancies caused by death or resignation or otherwise may be filled by co-option.

Nomination
and election
of Vice-President;
his duties

Appointment
of other
officials

Removal of
appointees
from office

Appointment
of Executive
Committee

(b) The General Council may delegate to the Executive Committee any of its powers and authority in the management of the business and affairs of the Society except :

1. The power to amend or repeal the Rules;

2. The power to borrow money and incur indebtedness;

3. Such powers as are specifically reserved to the President.

The Executive Committee shall have such powers as are delegated to it by the General Council and as are specified in the Rules. The Executive Committee may recommend to the General Council programmes, policies or activities, but it may not initiate projects requiring major funds not within the current approved budget.

15. The Executive Committee shall meet at least once in every three months for the receipt and consideration of accounts and the despatch of any other business. A special meeting may be called by the President whenever he thinks fit, and such meeting shall be called by him, or if not by him, by the Secretary, when he is required to do so, by not fewer than three members of the Committee, who shall state to him in writing the business for which they wish the meeting to assemble.

16. At a meeting of the Executive Committee, three members shall constitute a quorum.

17. The Committee shall, in the absence of the President and Vice-President, elect a Chairman to preside over the meeting and in case of equality of votes the Chairman for the time being shall have a casting vote.

18. The President shall be the custodian of all the archives and records of the Society, and shall be the Executive Officer and shall conduct and direct the business of the Society in compliance with its rules; he shall be empowered to make temporary appointments and to fill provisionally all vacancies that occur in the offices of the Society, and shall have discretionary powers in all matters not specifically provided for in these Rules.

19. All subscriptions, donations and other moneys payable to the Association shall be received by the President, or the Treasurer, or the Secretary, the receipt of any of whom in writing shall be sufficient discharge for the same.

20. The securities and uninvested funds of The Society shall be deposited in the State Bank of India, Madras, or such other Bank or Banks as the Executive Committee, T.S., shall select; and in countries outside of India, in such Banks as the President shall select. Cheques drawn against the funds shall be signed by any two of the following, the President, the Treasurer, the Secretary and any other persons appointed by the President for the purpose under Rule 12.

21. (a) Notwithstanding anything in these rules to the contrary the President may, touching the assets and affairs of the Society beyond India, at any time and from time to time by a Power of Attorney appoint any persons to be the Attorneys of the Society for such period and subject to such conditions and for such purposes and with such authorities and powers as he may think fit, and he

President
Custodian of
archives;
Executive
Officer;
power to
make tempo-
rary and
provisional
appointments

Receipt of
moneys

Deposits,
Signatories

Power of
attorney

Meetings of
Executive
Committee

Quorum of
Executive
Committee

Chairman of
Executive
Committee

may if necessary affix the Seal of the Society thereto.

Without prejudice to the general powers conferred as aforesaid, the President may grant power and authority among others to sell, grant mortgage, lease or otherwise transfer the assets of the Society, movable or immovable, real or personal, and to receive subscriptions, donations, legacies, moneys and other property, movable or immovable, and to institute, continue, compromise, compound or refer to arbitration any actions, suits, or other proceedings, and to take and hold shares in any Company, and to vote at any meetings thereof, and to sub-delegate all or any of his powers, and to give receipts and releases, and to sign, seal and deliver any instrument or document and have the same registered.

(b) The funds of the Society may be invested by the President, with the advice and consent of the Executive Committee, in Government or other Public Securities, or in the purchase of immovable property or First Mortgages on such property.

(c) The Adyar Estate of the Society in Madras including the Society's original Headquarters and all other properties in Adyar since acquired by gift, purchase or otherwise, shall not at any time be disposed of by sale, gift, exchange, mortgage or otherwise; save that the President, if specially authorized by a resolution of the General Council, passed by a three-fourths vote of their members, voting in person, in writing or by proxy, may dispose of such outlying portions of the said Adyar Estate, as may be specified in such Resolutions.

(d) The President may, with the advice and consent of the Executive Committee, sell, mortgage or otherwise transfer any investment in

Government or other Public securities, or any movable or immovable property of the Society other than those mentioned in Rule 21 (c).

22. (a) All deeds whereby immovable properties belonging to the Society are transferred or otherwise dealt with shall have affixed to them the Seal of the Society with the signature of the President and of the Secretary. In case of the absence of the President or where the Executive Committee finds that he is by reason of disability caused by accident, illness or otherwise, unable to act, it may appoint two of its members to sign in place of the President.

(b) All transfers of movable property, if in writing, shall bear the signature of the President and of the Secretary but need not have affixed to them the Seal of the Society. In case of the absence of the President or where the Executive Committee finds that he is by reason of disability caused by accident, illness or otherwise, unable to act, it may appoint two of its members to sign in place of the President.

Note: The procedure detailed in this Rule is without prejudice to the powers conferred under Rule 21 (a).

23. The Society may sue and be sued in the name of the President.

24. The Secretary may, with the authority of the President, or of the two substitutes appointed according to Rule 22, affix the Seal of the Society on all instruments requiring to be sealed, and all such instruments shall be signed by the President or by the two substitutes above mentioned and the Secretary.

25. On the death or resignation of the President, the Secretary shall at once make arrangements for the election of a new President, in accordance with Rule 10, and until such new President is elected the Vice-President shall perform the duties of President.

HEADQUARTERS

26. Headquarters of the Society are established at Adyar, Madras, and are outside the jurisdiction of the Indian Section.

27. The President shall have full power and discretion to permit to any person the use of any portion or premises in the Adyar Estate for occupation and residence, on such terms as the President may lay down, or to refuse permission so to occupy or reside. Any person occupying or residing under the permission granted by the President shall, on a fortnight's notice given by or on behalf of the President, unconditionally quit the premises before the expiry of that period.

ORGANIZATION

28. Every person of ten full years of age, without distinction of race, creed, sex, caste or colour, shall be eligible for membership in the Society, but those under the age of eighteen shall be admitted to membership only with the written consent of parent or guardian, and shall have no right to vote until they have reached the age of eighteen years.

29. (a) Admission to membership may be obtained through the President of a Lodge (Branch), the General Secretary of a National Society, or through the Secretary; and a Diploma (Certificate) of membership shall be issued to the

Fellow, bearing the signature of the President, and countersigned by the General Secretary, where the applicant resides within the territory of a National Society, or countersigned by the Secretary, if admission to membership has been obtained through the Secretary.

(b) The date of membership will begin:

(i) When admission has been made through the General Secretary, Regional Secretary, Organizing Secretary, or Presidential Representative from the date of acceptance by the General Secretary, Regional Secretary, Organizing Secretary or Presidential Representative as entered by him and duly reported to the Secretary at Adyar.

(ii) When admission has been made through the Secretary, from the date of acceptance of the application by him, and so recorded in his office.

(c) Members may not be full members of more than one Lodge (Branch) at a time, but may be accepted as Affiliated or Honorary Members of Lodges (Branches) other than the one in which they are full members. Affiliated or Honorary Members may possess such rights and privileges as are accorded to them by the Lodge (Branch) in which they hold such membership, but they shall not be founder members of new Lodges (Branches). Affiliated or Honorary Members are not to be counted in the international records or vote in international elections other than through the Lodge (Branch) in which they hold full membership.

30. Lodges (Branches) and Fellows, whether unattached or attached to a Lodge (Branch), residing within the territory of a National Society, shall normally belong to that

National Society, unless coming under Rule 31.

Provided that with the consent of the General Secretaries concerned a member who belongs to one National Society may while retaining his membership of that National Society belong to another National Society, but he shall not be allowed to cast more than one vote in matters relating to The Theosophical Society.

When a National Society under its own rules provides for Life Membership in that National Society, such Life Membership shall no longer be effective where a Member resides in the territory of or transfers his membership to another National Society, unless the specific approval of the General Secretaries concerned has been granted.

31. (a) When an individual Fellow in good standing, for any serious and weighty reason, sufficient in the opinion of the President to justify such action, is desirous of leaving the National Society to which he belongs, but is not desirous of leaving The Theosophical Society, such individual Fellow may become directly attached to Headquarters, Adyar, severing all connection with the National Society. Such application must be made through the General Secretary of the National Society concerned who shall be under obligation duly to forward such application to the President as expeditiously as possible. This shall equally apply in the case of the admission of any new member.

(b) A Fellow of The Theosophical Society in good standing who is desirous of leaving the National Society to which he or she belongs or ought to belong under Rule 30 and of joining another National Society, may be permitted by the President to do so provided such Fellow presents reason sufficient in the opinion of the

President to justify such action, and provided further that the application for transfer is submitted with the approval of the General Secretaries of both National Societies concerned.

This rule shall apply equally in the case of the admission of a new member.

(c) When a Lodge (Branch), for any serious and weighty reason, sufficient in the opinion of the President to justify such action, is desirous of leaving the National Society to which it belongs, but is not desirous of leaving The Theosophical Society, such Lodge (Branch) may become directly attached to Headquarters, Adyar, severing all connection with the National Society. Such application must be made through the General Secretary of the National Society concerned who shall be under obligation duly to forward such application to the President as expeditiously as possible.

Before any Lodge (Branch) shall have the right to apply to be directly attached to Headquarters, Adyar, it shall have mailed to each of its members individually a notice that such application is about to be considered. Such notice must be mailed not less than two weeks before the meeting at which such consideration is to take place, and voting on the application shall be deferred until two months after that meeting. If at such first meeting, or any succeeding meeting pursuant thereto, it is decided to bring the application to a vote as herein provided, a full report of the reasons for such action shall at once be sent to the General Secretary of the National Society concerned.

Any application for separation from the National Society to which a Lodge (Branch) belongs shall be ineffective unless two-thirds of the members of the Lodge (Branch) vote in favor thereof.

(d) In the event of any undue delay in the transmission of any application under any of the foregoing provisions of

Lodges and
Fellows within
the territory
of a National
Society but
attached direct
to Adyar or
to another
National
Society

this Rule, a correct copy of such application (duly signed or otherwise authenticated) may be transmitted directly to the President by the Fellow or Lodge (Branch) concerned, and the President may act on such copy if in his absolute discretion it appears to him to be fit or proper that he should so act. Any action so taken by the President shall be as valid and effectual, for all purposes, as if it had been taken on the original application submitted for transmission to the President. The Fellow or Lodge (Branch), when forwarding such copy to the President directly, shall state the full grounds and reasons for the direct transmission.

32. Lodges (Branches) or Fellows-at-large, in countries where no National Society exists, must apply for their Charters or Diplomas (Certificates) directly to the Secretary, and may not, without the sanction of the President, belong to National Societies within the territorial limits of which they are not situated or resident.

33. Any seven Fellows may apply to be chartered as a Lodge (Branch). In a country where no National Society exists the application must be forwarded to the President of the Society through the Secretary.

34. The President shall have authority to grant or refuse applications for Charters, which, if issued, must bear his signature and that of the Secretary, and the Seal of the Society, and be recorded at the Headquarters of the Society.

35. (a) A National Society may be formed by the President, upon the application of seven or more chartered Lodges (Branches) consisting of at least 70 members of the Society in good standing.

(b) Upon the application of seven or more chartered Lodges (Branches) in areas which are territorially adjacent and in which there are not sufficient Lodges (Branches) for each national group to form a National Society, the President shall have authority at his discretion to issue (and to cancel) a Charter constituting such Lodges (Branches) into a Section. The Charter shall confer the same powers as one issued to a National Society. In all respects the rules applying to National Societies shall apply to any group of Lodges (Branches) holding a Charter under this rule.

(c) The President shall have authority at his discretion to issue (and to cancel) a certificate of Regional Association to any national or territorially adjacent group of Lodges (Branches) not sufficient in number or otherwise unable to form or to maintain a National Society, as defined in these Rules, or where in his judgment territorial division or other causes have made such Regional Association necessary or desirable. Any such Regional Association may elect an Organizing Secretary or other executive officer or officers for the purpose of further organization and the transaction of Regional Association business.

A Regional Association shall not appoint a General Secretary (as the term is used in these Rules) nor be represented on the General Council. In all other respects the Rules applicable to National Societies and to General Secretaries shall apply to Regional Associations and to their chief executives.

(d) The President shall have authority at his discretion to appoint and to withdraw appointments of Presidential Representatives to act under his instructions for the purposes of conducting the business

Formation of
a Section

Lodges and
Fellows
where no
National
Society
exists

Formation
of a Regional
Association

Formation of
a Lodge

President
grants, refuses
Charters

Formation of
a National
Society

Appointment
of Presidential
Representatives

and administration of the Society in any place and in any respect not inconsistent with these Rules. Each such appointment and the power delegated to each such Representative shall be evidenced by a Letter of Appointment referring to this Rule.

36. All Charters of National Societies or Lodges (Branches) and all Diplomas (Certificates) of membership derive their authority from the President, acting as Executive Officer of the General Council of the Society, and may be cancelled by the same authority.

If at any time the number of members in good standing of a National Society falls below 49, the Secretary shall report that fact to the General Council. If during the following three years the membership of the National Society remains below 49, the General Council shall then call upon the President to withdraw its Charter.

37. Each Lodge (Branch) and National Society shall have the power to make its own Rules which shall not be incompatible with the Rules of the National Society to which the Lodge (Branch) belongs or with the Rules of The Theosophical Society.

All Rules of Lodges (Branches) and National Societies and amendments thereto shall be submitted for approval within thirty days of their adoption as follows: In the case of a Lodge (Branch) belonging to a National Society, all such Rules and amendments shall be submitted to the General Secretary of that National Society; in the case of a National Society or of a Lodge (Branch) not situated within the territory of a National Society or of a Lodge directly attached to Adyar under Rule 31 (c) all such Rules or amendments thereto shall be submitted directly to the President.

All Rules and amendments shall be put into force if approval has not been refused within ninety days of acknowledgment of their receipt.

If by a change made in a Rule of The Theosophical Society, any Rule of a National Society, which at its inception was not incompatible with the Rules of The Theosophical Society, ceases to be compatible, such a Rule of the National Society shall cease to be valid and shall be amended so as to be in consonance with the Rules of The Theosophical Society.

If by a change made in a Rule of a National Society, any Rule of a Lodge (Branch) which at its inception was not incompatible with the Rules of the National Society, ceases to be compatible, such a Rule of the Lodge (Branch) shall cease to be valid and shall be amended so as to be in consonance with the Rules of the National Society.

38. Every National Society shall appoint or otherwise select a General Secretary, who shall be the channel of official communication between the General Council and the National Society.

39. The General Secretary of each National Society shall forward to the President, annually, not later than the first day of November, a report of the year's work of his Society, and at any time furnish any further information the President or General Council may desire.

40. National Societies hitherto known as Sections, which have been incorporated under the name of "The . . . Section of The T.S." before the year 1908, may retain that name in their respective countries, in order not to interfere with the incorporation already existing, but shall be included under the name of National Societies, for all purposes in these Rules and Regulations.

FINANCE

41. The President, Secretary and Treasurer shall together have the power to fix or vary fees and charges payable to the General Treasury by Lodges (Branches) not comprised within the limits of any National Society; for Charters of such Lodges (Branches); for Diplomas (Certificates) of Membership and for Annual Subscription of Fellows of such Lodges (Branches); and in the case of Lodges (Branches) comprised within the jurisdiction of a National Society, Regional Association or Presidential Agency for Charters when printed at or supplied by the Adyar Headquarters. The Secretary should inform the General Council within three months of any changes in fees and charges. The Annual Subscription of Fellows other than Fellows-at-large or members of Lodges (Branches) attached directly to Adyar shall be the amount prescribed for Annual Subscription by the by-laws or other regulations of the National Society to which such Fellows are attached, or equivalents.

42. Fellows-at-large, resident within the territory of a National Society under the Provision of Rule 31 (a) shall pay to the General Treasury as Entrance Fee and as Annual Subscription the amounts prescribed by the by-laws or other regulations of such National Society, but not less than the fee and subscription fixed for a Fellow-at-large not resident within the territory of a National Society.

Fellows-at-large, not resident within the territory of a National Society, shall pay such Entrance Fee, Diploma Fee and Annual Subscription as shall be fixed by The President, Secretary and Treasurer. The Secretary shall inform the General Council of any changes in such fees within three months of their being made.

43. (a) Each National Society shall pay into the General Treasury fifteen per cent of the total amount of fees payable by members to the Section and shall remit the same to the Treasurer at Adyar on or before the first day of March of the current year, and the financial year of the Society shall close on 31st March.

(b) Notwithstanding the provisions of Rule 41 (a) and Rule 42, the President at his discretion may authorize Presidential Representatives to collect dues in territories to which they have been appointed and to remit in accordance with Rule 43 (a).

44. In the event of the cancellation of any Charter under Rule 36, or the dissolution of any National Society or of a Lodge (Branch), the constituent Charter of the National Society or of the Lodge (Branch), granted by the President, shall *ipso facto*, become forfeited or lapsed, and all property, real or personal, including Charters, Diplomas (Certificates), Seal, Records and other papers belonging to or in the custody of such National Society or Lodge (Branch) shall vest as follows:

(a) in the Society, in the case of a National Society or of a Lodge (Branch) not within the territory of a National Society or of a Lodge (Branch) coming under Rule 31 (c) (except where the law of the country where the National Society or Lodge (Branch) is situated prohibits such vesting, in which case the property shall vest as hereinafter provided), and delivery shall be made to the President, or to his nominee on his behalf.

(b) in the National Society in which the Lodge (Branch) is situated, in the case of a Lodge (Branch) within the territory of a National Society, said Lodge (Branch) not coming under Rule 31 (c), and delivery shall be made to the General Secretary of the said National Society.

No National Society or Lodge (Branch) whose Charter shall have become forfeited or lapsed shall continue to use the name, motto, or seal of the Society except for the purpose of vesting in the Society or in the National Society as the case may be the real and personal property of such National Society or Lodge (Branch).

Provided, nevertheless, that the President shall have power to revive the Charter of the National Society or the Lodge (Branch), as the case may be, whose Charter shall have become so forfeited or lapsed, and to transfer the said Charter to other Lodges (Branches) being not fewer than seven in number, or to other Fellows being not less than seven in number, as the case may be, or to such other nominees of his as in his judgment shall seem best for the interests of the Society.

In cases under (a) above, where such vesting in the Society is prohibited by the law of the country in which is situated the National Society or the Lodge (Branch) whose Charter has become forfeited or lapsed as aforesaid, the property shall vest in a local Trustee or Trustees appointed by the President.

To effect any transfer of property, to which the Society may become entitled under this Rule, it shall be lawful for the President to appoint an agent or nominee for the purpose of executing any necessary document or documents, or for taking any steps necessary effectually to transfer the said property to the Society.

45. The financial accounts of the Society shall be audited annually by qualified Auditors who shall be appointed by the General Council at each Annual Meeting for the ensuing year.

Financial
accounts

MEETING

46. The Annual General Meeting or Convention of the Society shall be held at such time and in such place as shall be determined by the Executive Committee in June of each year, but such Annual General Meeting or Convention must be held within six months of the close of the Society's year and may be held outside India not more than once in every three years. National Societies desirous of inviting the Convention and able to make due arrangements for its accommodation, shall send the invitation at least twelve (12) months prior to the Convention with particulars of the arrangements they propose to make.

Annual
General
Meeting

47. Not more than once in every seven years a World Congress of The Theosophical Society may be held out of India, at a place and date to be fixed by the General Council, but so as not to interfere with the Annual Convention in India.

World
Congress

48. The President shall have the power to convene special meetings of the Society at his discretion.

Special
meetings

REVISION

49. The General Council, of their own motion or on the motion of the Executive Committee and after at least three

Changes in
Rules and
Regulations

months' notice has been given to each member of said Council, may, by a three-fourths vote of those members who vote in person, in writing, or by proxy, make, alter or repeal the Rules and Regulations of the Society, in such manner as it may deem expedient.

50. The General Council may frame
By-laws by-laws not inconsistent
with these Rules and Regulations and may add to, alter, or repeal such by-laws, consistently with the said Rules and Regulations, as it may deem expedient.

DIRECTORY

AT

1 JANUARY, 1979

Ex-Officio Members of General Council

President: MR. JOHN B. S. COATS

Vice-President: MISS JOY MILLS

Secretary: DR. (MRS.) JEAN RAYMOND

Treasurer: MR. C. R. N. SWAMY

National Societies, Federations and Presidential Agencies

Date of Formation	Name of Section	General Secretary	Address
1886	United States	... Mrs. Dora Kunz	... P.O. Box 270, Wheaton, Illinois 60187
1888	England	... Miss Marion Caws	... 50, Gloucester Place, London, W1H 3HJ
1891	India	... Mr. H. B. Vaishnav	... The Theosophical Society, Varanasi 221001
1895	Australia	... Mrs. Elaine Murdoch	... 121 Walker Street, North Sydney, N.S.W. 2060
1895	Sweden	... Mr. Gunnar Larson	... Lars Kaggsgatan 36 C, S-415 04 Gothenburg
1896	New Zealand	... Mr. Neill Edgar	... 18, Belvedere St., Epsom, Auckland 3
1897	The Netherlands	... Mr. Arend Heybroek	... 7 Kruisstraat, Utrecht—2502
1899	France	... Mr. S. Lancri	... 4, Square Rapp, 75007 Paris
1902	Italy	... Sgr. Edoardo Bratina	... 34131 Trieste, Corso Umberto Saba N. 6
1902	Germany	... Mrs. Gerda Höfer	... Holbeinstr. 16, D-2800 Bremen 1
1905	Cuba	... Sr. Juan Bautista Rodriguez Oliva	... P.O. Box 6365, Havana
1907	Hungary	...	...
1907	Finland	... Miss Sirkka Kivilinna	... Vironkatu 7c2, 00170, Helsinki 17
1908	Russia	...	...
1909	Czechoslovakia	...	...
1909	Southern Africa	... Mrs. A. M. G. Bischoff	... P.O. Box 863, Johannesburg, South Africa
1910	Scotland	... Mr. James G. Mitchell	... 15 Binghill Cres., Milltimber, Aberdeen, ABI OHP
1910	Switzerland	... Mr. Ricco Streiff	... Hauensteinstrasse 128, 4029, Basel
1911	Belgium	... Monsieur Ch. Lallemand	... 75/5 Avenue J. Bordet, 72 Bte 5, B 1140, Bruxelles
1912	Indonesia*	... Mr. R. S. Soejatno	... Jalan Tawakkal, IX/3, Grogol, Jakarta
1912	Burma	... U Maung Gyi	... No. 102, 49th Street, East Rangoon
1912	Austria	... Dr. Norbert Lauppert	... Kaiserfeldgasse 19, Postfach 655, A-8011 Graz
1913	Norway	... Mrs. Hilda Fraser	... Gabels Gate 45 B, Oslo 2
1918	Egypt	...	...
1918	Denmark	... Mr. Hardy Bennis	... Banevej 3, Hyllested, 4261 Dalmose
1919	Ireland	... Miss Dorothy Emerson	... Alexandra Guild House, 30 Leinster Road West, Dublin 6

Date of Formation	Name of Section	General Secretary	Address
1919	Mexico	... Sra. Juana de Suarez del Real	... Ignacio Mariscal 126, Mexico 1, D.F.
1919	Canada	... Mr. Ted Davy	... 2307 Sovereign Crescent S.W., Calgary, Alberta T3C 2M3
1920	Argentina	... Sr. Juan Cassibba	... Florencio Balcarce 71, Buenos Aires
1920	Chile	... Sra. Raquel Escobedo de Modrow	Casilla 538, Limache
1920	Brazil	... Dr. Murillo Nunes de Azevedo	... Rua Imperatriz Leopoldina, 8, 17° andar, Rio de Janeiro 20000
1920	Bulgaria	...	...
1921	Iceland	... Mr. Einar Adalsteinsson	... Ingolfsstraeti 22, Reykjavik
1921	Spain*	... Sr. S. Torra Palà	... Layetana 77, Barcelona 10
1921	Portugal	... Dr. Maria Nobre Santos	... Campo Mártires da Pátria 69, Lisbon 1
1922	Wales	... Mr. Charles E. M. James	... 206 Newport Rd., Cardiff CF2 1DL
1923	Poland	...	...
1925	Uruguay	... Sr. Justo V. de la Vega	... J. Barrios Amorin St., 1085, Montevideo
1925	Puerto Rico	... Dr. Renée Force	... Cond. El Escorial Apt. 5-C, 111, Franklin D. Roosevelt Ave., Hato Rey, Puerto Rico 0017
1925	Rumania	...	...
1925	Yugoslavia	... Mrs. Mila Grubacevic	... Lino Mariani, 17, Pula 52000
1926	Sri Lanka	... Mr. T. R. Rustomjee	... 49 Peterson Lane, Colombo 6
1928	Greece	... Mr. C. Melissaropoulos	... Dragatsaniou str. 6, Athens 122
1929	Central America	... Sr. Julio Cesar Guillen	... Colonia Miramonte, Avenida Tecana 632, San Salvador, El Salvador
1929	Paraguay	...	...
1929	Peru	...	...
1933	Philippines	... Mrs. Cleo Z. Gregorio	... 600 La Salle, Greenhills, Mandalu- yong, Metromanilla
1937	Colombia	... Sr. Gabriel Burgos	... Carrera 6a, No. 56-40, Bogotá
1947	East & Central Africa	... Mr. H. M. Chhaya	... P.O. Box 48507, Nairobi, Kenya
1948	Pakistan*	... Mrs. Gool K. Minwalla	... "Q" House, 2nd Floor, 2 Framrose Road, Bath Island, Karachi-0402
1948	Malaysia*	... Mr. S. Narayanan	... 12, Lorong Damansarah Endah, Kuala Lumpur
1949	Northern Ireland†	... Mr. Antonio Rodriguez	... Gateway House, 242 Antrim Road, Belfast, BT15 2AR
1950	Israel	...	... P.O. Box 1822, Tel-Aviv (pro tem)
1951	Japan	...	...
1952	Viet-Nam	... Miss Luu-Thi-Dau	... 446 Vo-di-Nguy, Phu-Nhuan, Ho Chi Minh City
1953	Venezuela*	... Sr. Pablo Bonilla T.	... Apartado 2907, Caracas
1956	West Africa†	... Mr. Isaac K. Zaney	... P.O. Box 720, Accra, Ghana
1965	Bolivia*	... Sr. Raul Laguna Lozada	... Casilla 148, La Paz
European Federation		... Mrs. M. Leslie-Smith (of National Societies in Europe, formed 1903)	... 2, Tekels Park, Camberley, Surrey, GU15 2LF, England
Canadian Federation		... Dr. C. Ton Phan (attached to Headquarters, Adyar, 1924)	... 874 Hartland, Outremont, Quebec H2V 2X8
Inter-American Federation		Sr. Luis Spairani	... Florencio Balcarce 71, Buenos Aires, Argentina
Indo-Pacific Federation		... Mrs. Elaine Murdoch	... 121, Walker Street, North Sydney, N. S. W. 2060 Australia
World Federation of Young Theosophists		... Mr. Arnaldo Sisson	... Caixa Postal 10,369 Porto Alegre, 90,000 Brazil
* Presidential Agency }		Presidential Agents and Organizing Secretaries are not members of the	
† Federation }		General Council.	

Additional Members of the General Council

- MRS. RUKMINI DEVI ARUNDALE, The Theosophical Society, Adyar, Madras 600020, India (for 1979, 1980 and 1981).
- MR. GEOFFREY HODSON, 17 Belvedere St., Epsom, Auckland 3, New Zealand (for 1977, 1978 and 1979).
- MRS. GOOL K. MINWALLA, 'Q' House, 2nd Floor, 2 Framroze Road, Bath Island, Karachi 4, Pakistan (for 1977, 1978 and 1979).
- MR. JAMES S. PERKINS, 29 Taormina Lane, Taormina, Ojai, California 93023, U.S.A. (for 1978, 1979 and 1980).
- MR. K. N. RAMANATHAN, The Theosophical Society, Adyar, Madras 600020, India (for 1979, 1980 and 1981).
- DR. HUGH SHEARMAN, 36 Cliftonville Road, Belfast BT 14 6 JY, United Kingdom (for 1978, 1979 and 1980).
- MR. V. WALLACE SLATER, 55 Southfields, Hendon, London, NW4 4LX England (for 1978, 1979 and 1980).
- MR. LUIS SPAIRANI, Florencio Balcarce 71, Buenos Aires, Argentina (for 1978, 1979 and 1980).
- MRS. ANN WYLIE, No. 36 Krotana Hill, Ojai, California 93023, U.S.A. (for 1979, 1980 and 1981).
- MR. SEYMOUR BALLARD, P. O. Box 534, San Juan, Puerto Rico, 00936 (for 1977, 1978 and 1979).
- MRS. EMILY SELLON, Hillandale Road, Port Chester, N.Y. 10573, U.S.A. (for 1978, 1979 and 1980).
- MRS. RADHA BURNIER, The Theosophical Society, Adyar, Madras 600020, India. (for 1979, 1980 and 1981)

MINUTES

*Of the Meeting of the General Council of the Theosophical Society
held at Durham, England, on 13th August 1978*

PRESENT

Miss Joy Mills

.. Vice-President (in the Chair), and Proxy for
Mr. John B. S. Coats, President,
Dr. Norbert Lauppert, General Secretary
of the T.S. in Austria, Miss Carmen
Aguilar Alvarez, General Secretary of the
T. S. in Central America, Mr. Geoffrey
Hodson, Additional Member and Mr.
Luis Spairani, Additional Member.

Dr. Jean Raymond

.. Secretary and Proxy for U Maung Gyi,
General Secretary for Burma and Mr.
H. M. Chhaya, General Secretary for
East and Central Africa.

Mrs. Dora Kunz

.. General Secretary of the T.S. in America.

Miss Marion Caws

.. General Secretary of the T.S. in England.

Mr. Gunnar Larson

.. General Secretary of the T.S. in Sweden.

Mr. Salomon Lancri

.. General Secretary of the T.S. in France.

Mrs. Gerda Hofer

.. General Secretary of the T.S. in Germany.

Miss Sirkka Kivilinna

.. General Secretary of the T.S. in Finland.

Mr. James Mitchell

.. General Secretary of the T.S. in Scotland.

Mr. Ricco Streiff

.. General Secretary of the T.S. in Switzerland.

Mr. Charles Lallemand

.. General Secretary of the T.S. in Belgium.

Mrs. Hilda Fraser

.. General Secretary of the T.S. in Norway.

Dr. Maria Nobre Santos

.. General Secretary of the T.S. in Portugal.

Mr. Charles James

.. General Secretary of the T.S. in Wales.

Mrs. Mila Grubacevic

.. General Secretary of the T.S. in Yugoslavia.

Mr. Seymour Ballard

.. Additional Member and Proxy for Mr. Juan
Bautista Rodriguez, General Secretary of
the T.S. in Cuba.

Mrs. Ann Kerr Greene

.. Additional Member.

Mr. K. N. Ramanathan

.. Additional Member.

Mr. Leslie H. Leslie-Smith

.. Additional Member.

Mrs. Emily Sellon

.. Additional Member.

Dr. Hugh Shearman

.. Additional Member.

Mr. V. Wallace Slater

.. Additional Member.

Members attending the European
Congress

.. Observers.

The meeting on 13th August was open to delegates attending the European Congress to attend as observers. The meetings on 14th and 15th August were closed meetings.

I. The Programme and Policy of the Society

1. Development of Theosophical Educational Programmes.

Recommendations were: Short intensive seminars on specific subjects for small groups of members are useful, also teacher training workshops for theosophical workers. If possible a part scholarship should be offered for members. Seminar panels should always contain at least one Theosophist, and the Chairman should always be a Theosophist.

Modern techniques of teaching should be incorporated. Leaders should learn how to teach and how to involve the participants actively. Thought needs to be given to what should be taught so as to preserve the unique theosophical philosophy. Younger and middle age groups should be encouraged to participate. Courses should relate the instruction to human needs.

New textbooks are required for study. The General Secretary of the T.S. in America mentioned that there is a possibility that the American Section may try to produce a modern textbook on Theosophy related to modern trends.

Information regarding educational programmes needs to be shared between sections. An attempt is being made in the Adyar Newsletter to do this to some extent. The development of visual aids for study is important.

In discussing the Centre of Theosophical Studies at Adyar, the Chairman who is Director of Studies recommended that sections choose a promising student and sponsor him for a period at Adyar. Individuals coming on their own are not always the most useful to the Society. She proposes to include a programme of sensitivity training in the next session of studies.

2. Implementation of the Society's Objects and

3. Mr. Hodson's proposal for a Fourth Object "To Affirm the Continuance of the Mystery Tradition".

The discussion dealt principally with the possibility of modifying the Objects rather than with the implementation of the Objects as they now stand. Several members pointed out the difficulty with the existing Objects of conforming to the laws of certain countries, as for example to obtain tax exemptions. However it was mentioned that in at least one section, that is, Australia, the problem had been overcome by including a preamble to the Objects in the Memorandum of the Section. It is possible that other countries may overcome the problem in the same way. An *ad hoc* committee consisting of Mrs. Emily Sellon and Dr. Hugh Shearman was appointed to draft a model preamble which can be recommended to the General Council meeting in Varanasi in December for approval for circulation to sections.

It was pointed out that serious thought should be given before any change is made in the existing three Objects, as members have joined the Society on the basis of these. In addition sections and lodges around the world are registered on these Three Objects.

Various suggestions were put forward to be considered in framing the preamble. One was that Theosophy which is not specifically mentioned in the three Objects be mentioned in the preamble. Another suggestion was that the educational nature of the Society should be emphasized. The preamble may be a possible vehicle in which to mention Mr. Hodson's proposed fourth Object.

Several suggestions were also made with regard to possible changes in the three Objects. It was pointed out that outside India the word "caste" has little meaning and in fact in India legally it no longer does either. Therefore it should be considered whether this word should be removed. Another point raised was that the word "nucleus" may give the impression of exclusiveness. As the principle of universal brotherhood is now recognised throughout the world possibly there is no longer a need to form a nucleus of it. In relation to the Third Object, the interpretation of the word "investigate" was discussed together with its appropriate translation into other languages. It was pointed out that the commonly used translations sometimes give a somewhat different meaning. With regard to the powers latent in man, are spiritual powers meant and should this be specifically stated to distinguish them from psychic powers?

There was a general discussion on the nature of primary and secondary Theosophy and the purposes of the Society. However, no specific proposals were agreed upon to be referred to Varanasi.

MINUTES

*Of the Meeting of the General Council of the Theosophical Society
held at Durham, England, on 14th August 1978*

PRESENT

All General Council Members present on 13th August 1978. In addition:

Mrs. Joan Patterson	.. Observer (New Zealand)
Miss Alberdina J. Post	.. Observer (The Netherlands)
Dr. Margarethe Hansmann	.. Observer (Austria)
Mrs. Inga Sorensen	.. Observer (Denmark)
Mr. Arnaldo Sisson Filho	.. Observer (Brasil)
Mr. Saturnino Torra Pala	.. Observer (Spain)
Mr. Antonio Rodriguez	.. Observer (Northern Ireland)
Mrs. Madeleine Leslie-Smith	.. Observer (European Federation)

2. *Implementation of the Society's Objects* (continued):

It was resolved that the President be requested to establish a committee to study the Society's Objects and to review them in relation to the suggestions brought forward at Durham.

II. *The Structure of the Society*

8. *Proposed Amendments Submitted to the Council for Vote.*

The proposed amendments which had already been circulated for voting were discussed.

Amendment to Rule 29. This amendment was discussed in relation to Rule 30 para 2 which provides for membership in more than one National Society. The consensus of the meeting was that an individual should be a member of only one Section at a time and it was recommended that the matter be referred back to the Structural Committee for further consideration and drafting of a possible amendment of Rule 30 para 2 to implement this principle. It was pointed out that under the existing rules, when a member is attached to more than one National Society, it is difficult to ensure that he only votes once in international matters.

Rule 36 para 1. Several General Secretaries stated that they considered the power to cancel lodge Charters should lie with the General Secretaries and national councils of the national societies. On occasions such as in disagreements over lodge property, quick action in the cancellation of a Charter may be necessary, which is not possible if it must be referred to the International President. However, it was also pointed out that there should always be a court of appeal and the President may serve as this. Review of the cancellation should always be available.

After discussion it was agreed to recommend that a further study of the matter be made by the Structural Committee.

Amendments to Rule 35(a) and Rule 36 para 2. It was agreed to recommend support of the amendment to Rule 35(a). With regard to the proposed amendment

to Rule 36 para 2, several sections which would be affected if the amendment were adopted raised certain objections and questions. One question raised was with regard to disposal of section property if the Section is to be dissolved under the amendment. Under Rule 44 it is required that property be returned to the International Society. However, it was suggested that this would seriously affect the working of the T.S. in the country concerned if it continued under some other status such a Federation or Presidential Agency. Would it be possible for the International Society to leave the property in the possession of the group working under another name or classification?

The question was raised whether study centres should be given an official status and carry weight for the maintenance of a section. Should the structure of a section be uniform throughout the world or flexible according to local circumstances? Should the whole basis of definition of a section be reviewed?

It was considered by the national societies within the British Isles which would be affected by the amendment that it would not be to their advantage to unite into a British federation or section of some sort.

After discussion it was agreed to recommend that the proposal be referred back to the Structural Committee for further study and review of both Rule 36 para 2 and Rule 44. Even if the proposed amendment which had been circulated for voting is passed by a sufficient number of votes, it was also recommended that it should not take effect while still under consideration.

14. *Any other Business.*

(a) *Consultative Nature of the Durham Congress.*

Although it had been resolved at the last General Council meetings in Adyar in 1977/78 that the Durham Council meetings be purely consultative in nature, it was pointed out that a much larger than normal number of council members was present at Durham—larger than would be expected to be able to attend a meeting in India. Consequently it was considered that due weight should be given to the deliberations at Durham and the following resolution was adopted: *Resolved* that it be recommended that the resolutions studied, discussed and adopted by the 22 members of the General Council meeting at Durham in August 1978 in consultative assembly be accepted and honored by a vote of approval by those members of the General Council attending the Varanasi December 1978 meetings, signifying thereby that the Durham meetings and their decisions are viewed and accepted as formal actions of the General Council and not just as the summation of discussions of a general and non-binding nature.

(b) *Programming of General Council Meetings.*

It was considered that it would be preferable to have the General Council meetings concentrated into two or three days immediately prior to or following Conventions with both morning and afternoon session each day to complete the work rapidly. This is to be recommended to the President.

MINUTES

*Of the Adjourned Meeting of the General Council of the Theosophical Society
held at Durham on 15th August 1978*

PRESENT

All General Council Members present on 13th and 14th August 1978. In addition:

Mrs. Joan Patterson	.. Observer (New Zealand)
Miss Alberdina J. Post	.. Observer (Netherlands)
Mrs. Inga Sorensen	.. Observer (Denmark)
Mr. Saturnino Torra Pala	.. Observer (Spain)
Mrs. Madeleine Leslie-Smith	.. Observer (European Federation)
Mr. John C. Sellon	.. By invitation (Member, International Finance Committee)

II. *The Structure of the Society* (Contd.)

9. *Proposals for election procedures submitted to the General Council for vote (Rule 10):*

The amended Rule 10 as circulated to Council members was discussed. The following changes were recommended: (a) That clauses 9 & 10 be transposed. (b) That in clauses 36 and 41 the word "should" be altered to "shall". (c) That in clause 38 the words "the General Secretary" be amended to "scrutineers appointed for the purpose"; that the word "him" be substituted by the words "the General Secretary". (d) That in clause 37 the words "prepared by the National Society and marked" be inserted after the word "envelopes".

14. *Any Other Business.* (Contd.)

(c) *International Funds.* The Chairman explained about various funds held in a number of countries for the purpose of international theosophical work. The General Council had appointed a international Finance Committee consisting of Mr. John Sellon (U.S.A.), Mr. Ronald Bird (England) and Mr. Brian Parry (Australia) to advise on the utilisation of these funds, as well as on overall financial policy.

Mr. John Sellon was then invited to speak. He reported on the status of the international funds and stated that he considered it necessary that the General Council appoint an individual or body at the international level to administer the funds. At present, there is no official procedure for administration. The funds are spread over several countries and are, therefore, held in several currencies, which he considered to be an advantage. He felt that a drive should be undertaken to raise more funds for international work, as for example, helping the poorer sections.

The Chairman reported that the President had proposed the formation of an international trust, which would oversee the utilisation of all the international funds. Although the President had suggested that the trustees may be the members of the International Finance Committee, Mr. Sellon stated that personally he would not be available as trustee due to pressure of other work and this may be also the case with the other members of the Finance Committee.

The Chairman put forward the suggestion that there should be two budgets, approved by the General Council, at its Annual Meetings.

- (i) An operating budget, consisting of the usual budget for managing the International Headquarters, normally approved by the Council each year;
- (ii) A project or programme budget, which the General Council may project for international activities and for which international funds may be used. Administration of this budget would need to be worked out and also advice obtained from the Society's legal adviser regarding its status in relation to the Headquarters.

It was pointed out that the Raja Commemorative Fund which had been set up for international work could not be used for this purpose as it is held in India in rupees and due to exchange control regulations the money cannot be used outside the country.

It was agreed to recommend the presentation of two budgets as suggested.

With regard to investment of Headquarters funds, it was reported that a proposal to revise Rule 21b is under consideration to allow the Society more flexibility in investments.

(d) *Recommendations for holding General Council Meetings outside India:*

It was agreed to recommend that in view of the large number of members of the Council in attendance at Durham and the productive discussions achieved, regular meetings of the Council be held at least once in every three years outside of India.

(e) *Proposal for next World Congress:*

It was pointed out that the year 1982 would be seven years after the last World Congress. The Chairman proposed that consideration be given to holding a World Congress in 1982 in Nairobi, Kenya. This would be the first time a World Congress is held outside of Europe or the United States. She stated that there is an excellent modern conference centre available in Nairobi which may be utilized for the purpose. It was suggested that the World Congress be held in March or April. It was pointed out that the centenary of the purchase of the Adyar Estate also falls in 1982. However it was felt that if the World Congress is held early in the year it would not interfere greatly with the celebrations.

The members expressed their support for the proposal.

(f) *Theosophical Magazines:*

There was a discussion on the magazines emanating from the International Headquarters: *The Theosophist*, *Phoenix Rising*, and the *Adyar Newsletter*.

The Theosophist: It was explained that *The Theosophist* is officially the journal of the President and the Theosophical Society is responsible only for the official notices appearing in it. However it was pointed out that any deficit incurred in the publication of *The Theosophist* is met by the Theosophical Society through the Theosophical Publishing House, Adyar, and therefore the General Council is concerned with it. In addition, whatever is published from Adyar is interpreted both by members and the public as representing the Society, and the Society is judged by it. There was criticism of the layout and content of *The Theosophist*. It was stated that for some time the general quality of

the articles had not been good. Although most members were not against the use of graphics *per se*, the opinion was expressed that the present use of graphics was excessive, they were inappropriate and of poor quality. It was stated that obtaining good articles for the magazine involves much work by the editorial staff, and just using what comes to hand will not raise the quality of the magazine.

Mr. K. N. Ramanathan, Manager, Theosophical Publishing House, Adyar reported that since the change in layout of the magazine the circulation had increased by four hundred copies, i.e., from 1,800 copies in September 1977 to 2,200 copies in May 1978. Much of the deficit incurred in the changed layout had been met by donations. There was some discussion with regard to the purpose of *The Theosophist*. Some members felt that the magazine could not be a serious magazine with deep articles for students of Theosophy and at the same time have a wider popular appeal. Others felt that it could serve both roles. The point of view was put forward that at present the magazine is not achieving either aim adequately and focus should be given to at least one of them.

Phoenix Rising: It was suggested that with the popularisation of *The Theosophist*, there seemed to be some overlap with the content of the new magazine. If *Phoenix Rising* is intended for the public, some members questioned the inclusion of material critical of the Society. It was again mentioned that material emanating from Adyar is interpreted as being officially sponsored by the T. S. even if this is denied inside the magazine. There are a number of commercial journals available in the field and it was considered that *Phoenix Rising* could not compete with them. Some members felt that the International Theosophical Youth Centre was going beyond its appointed task in attempting to bring out such a magazine. The impression given to the General Council was that the I. T. Y. C. would be a clearing house of information and liaison office for youth activities and young people in relation to the T. S., and for this purpose it would bring out a newsletter. It was recommended that the Youth Centre proceed with the production of a newsletter.

In general the opinion was that there is a need for some sort of journal with a wide appeal, and with experiential material related to daily life. There was a difference of opinion as to whether there is need for two journals or whether one may full this role as well as provide material for serious students. The public is now widely educated in the ideas commonly called theosophical and their intelligence should not be underestimated. Whatever material emanates from Adyar must be of a high standard because the Society is judged by it. There should be an overall editorial policy for the international theosophical journals to avoid overlap. The General Council has some concern with this policy and the production of the journals because of the image of the Society and because deficits are met by T.S. funds.

SUMMARY

*Of the Meetings of the General Council of the Theosophical Society
held at the Indian Section Headquarters, Varanasi, on 25th and
31st December 1978 and 1st January 1979 and at the
International Headquarters, Adyar, Madras, on
16th, 17th, 18th, 19th and 20th January 1979.*

PRESENT

- | | |
|----------------------------|---|
| Mr. John B. S. Coats | .. President (in the Chair), and Proxy for Miss Joy Mills, Vice-President, and for the General Secretaries of the T.S. in Cuba and the Philippines. |
| Miss Joy Mills | .. Vice-President and Proxy for the General Secretary of the T.S. in Central America. (present at Adyar meetings) |
| Dr. Jean Raymond | .. Secretary and Proxy for the General Secretaries of the T.S. in France, Italy, Argentina, Yugoslavia and East and Central Africa. |
| Mr. C. R. N. Swamy | .. Treasurer and Proxy for the General Secretary of the T.S. in Burma. |
| Mrs. Radha Burnier | .. General Secretary of the T.S. in India to 31.12.78, Additional Member from 1.1.79 and Proxy for the General Secretaries of the T.S. in Germany, Finland and Chile and for Mr. Geoffrey Hodson and Mr. V. Wallace Slater, Additional Members. |
| Mr. H. B. Vaishnav | .. Observer to 31.12.78, General Secretary of the T.S. in India from 1.1.79. |
| Mr. Arend Heybroek | .. General Secretary of the T.S. in the Netherlands. |
| Mr. Ricco Streiff | .. General Secretary of the T.S. in Switzerland and Proxy for the General Secretary of the T.S. in Sweden. |
| Mr. Seymour D. Ballard | .. Additional Member and Proxy for the General Secretaries of the T.S. in the U.S.A., England and Belgium and for Mrs. Ann Wylie Greene and Mrs. Emily Sellon, Additional Members. |
| Mr. K. N. Ramanathan | .. Additional Member (present at Adyar meetings) |
| Mrs. Rukmini Devi Arundale | .. Additional Member (present at Adyar meetings) |
| Miss Diana Dunningham | .. Observer (New Zealand) |
| Mr. R. Soebroto | .. Observer (Indonesia) |
| Mr. Arnaldo Sisson Filho | .. Observer (Brazil) |
| Mr. Mario Cariaga Aramayo | .. Observer (Bolivia) |

Several members were not present at all meetings.

1. *To read and, if approved, to adopt the Minutes of the meetings of the General Council held on 25th and 31st December, 1977, and 1st, 2nd and 3rd January, 1978, at Adyar, and 13th, 14th and 15th August 1978 at Durham.*

The Minutes were approved with the following corrections in the Minutes of the meetings held at Adyar:

1. *Page 6—correction of the letter preceding the heading “Adyar Estate” from “m” to “n”.*
2. *Page 10—to add the number “4” before the heading “To consider resolutions submitted by the members of the T. S. in the Philippines. . .”.*

Matters arising out of Minutes:

Objects of the Society—to review, and to consider a preamble. The Committee on Structure and Procedures was asked to make a preliminary review of the Three Objects bearing in mind various suggestions raised at the Consultative Meeting held in Durham and other suggestions received.

It was pointed out that the Memorandum of Association of the Society may be misinterpreted, as it may appear that clauses a, b, c, and d pertain only to the Third Object of the Society rather than to all three Objects. The Society's legal adviser, Mr. S. Padmanabhan, is to be consulted as to whether it is possible to insert an introduction to the clauses a, b, c, and d to clarify that they refer to all Objects.

The Durham Council meeting had recommended that a model preamble to the Society's Objects be made available to National Societies to assist them in registering themselves with local authorities. Difficulties in registration and in obtaining recognition as a charitable and religious body had been cited as problems in certain countries. Draft preambles had been submitted by Mrs. Emily Sellon and Dr. Hugh Shearman as per the proposals of the Durham Council meeting. It was resolved that the Committee on Structure and Procedures be asked to study the draft preambles and to consider if there is a possibility of producing something acceptable using them as a basis.

Definition of Study Centres:

Further investigation of the possibility of international status for Study Centres should be made. It was recommended that Centres should not have the same status as Lodges in relation to carrying weight in the administration of National Societies. They should consist of at least three members. The matter was referred to the Committee on Structure and Procedures.

Nature of Lodges/Branches:

The problem was considered of alienation of Lodge property and its acquisition by individuals or other organizations. It was recommended that General Secretaries ensure that the constitutions of the National Societies and Lodges specify that the property of Lodges reverts to the National Society if the Lodge Charter is withdrawn.

Educational Programmes:

Recommendations of the Durham Congress were noted.

The General Secretary for the Netherlands reported that his Section is producing a book with practical instructions for daily application of theosophical principles, and a four-year course for theosophical workers is in progress.

It was recommended that the Centre of Theosophical Studies and Research revise its methods of working to involve group dynamics. The Centre or the Publicity Department at Adyar should send out material on group work and other aspects of the application of theosophical principles. The Director of Studies of the Centre, Miss Joy Mills, or other qualified persons may be sent on tours to different parts of the world to train members in group work during short workshops of one to two weeks duration. The Faculty at the Centre of Studies may be improved and the terms shortened. Additional Centres in various parts of the world may be set up which liaise with the Centre of Studies.

Miss Joy Mills announced that she will be resigning as International Vice-President on 1st October 1979 to concentrate on programmes at the Krotona Institute of Theosophy which she hopes will develop into an International Education Centre. A close liaison would be maintained between Krotona and the Adyar Centre of Theosophical Studies and Research to bring about exchange of students and faculty on a world basis. She proposed that Mrs. Seetha Neelakantan be appointed as Director of Studies at the Adyar Centre to succeed her. The President stated that he would like Miss Mills to oversee the theosophical educational programmes on an international scale.

Lands in Sindh:

The Treasurer reported that as the lands in Sindh, Pakistan, formerly owned by the International Society, had been declared evacuee property by the Pakistan Government, the Society could have claimed compensation from the Indian Government. However, it appears that such a claim is now time-barred, but a number of charitable bodies who are in the same position as the T.S. wish to make a joint representation to reopen the cases. The matter will be pursued further, as the land lost to the Society has a considerable value.

Theosophical Magazines:

The Theosophist: It was reported that there had been an actual increase in the number of subscribers from 1,800 to 2,200 since the change in format. Although there was general agreement that there may be place for two magazines providing two different approaches to theosophical study, one catering to the serious student of Theosophy and the other having a broader coverage including material which is lighter and easier to assimilate, and avoiding the use of technical jargon, it was considered that owing to lack of financial resources the Society is only able to support one magazine at present. Therefore it should continue only with the production of *The Theosophist*. It was suggested that *The Theosophist* be brought out as a quarterly instead of a monthly. The President is to circulate the members of the General Council for their opinion concerning this suggestion as well as other changes, such as reduction in the size in the magazine, nature of graphics, etc. It was agreed that suitable advertisements may still be carried and that the cost of the cover may be reduced.

It was agreed that *Phoenix Rising*, which is brought out by the International Theosophical Youth Centre, may be continued but will have to depend on private financing and income from sale of copies for its funding. *The Theosophist* should retain a broader base with regard to contents. There should be an improvement in quality of graphics and

in the reproduction. Any changes in the magazine's format and periodicity should commence from the October 1979 Centenary issue.

International Advisory Committee on Science and Technology:

It was agreed to drop the word "Advisory" from the Committee's title. It was reported that the Committee had assisted in organizing the recent Seminar at Adyar on "The Impact of Science on Human Values", jointly sponsored by the T.S. and COSTED. It was agreed that it would be useful for committee members to submit to *The Theosophist* brief reports on current scientific developments with a commentary from the theosophical viewpoint.

It was pointed out that the Theosophy-Science Group at Adyar is officially part of the Indian Section and not of the International Headquarters. It received a grant annually from the Theosophical World Trust for Education and Research to assist in the publication of its bulletin. Dr. A. Kannan, who is Secretary of the Theosophy-Science group, is also in charge of the Science Department at the Centre of Theosophical Studies and Research.

International Theosophical Youth Centre:

The President clarified the position of the ITYC in relation to the World Theosophical Youth Federation (formerly called the World Federation of Young Theosophists). The WTYF is not officially part of the Society, but functions as an independent body, while the ITYC is not an independent organization but is a centre in Adyar which serves as a liaison office with the youth groups and young people around the world.

It was reported that an allowance of Rs. 500 has been paid to the Coordinator of the Centre. It was agreed that the allowance be continued at Rs. 250 per month from T.S. funds, with Rs. 250 per month to be met from the funds of *Phoenix Rising*, as much of the time of the Coordinator is spent in editing the magazine. It was also agreed to continue the Centre as a part of the Headquarters' activities.

Meetings of General Council—to consider recommendations of time and place:

The recommendations put forward at the Durham Council meeting were noted and it was agreed to try and hold all the meetings within a period of two or three days either before or after Conventions so that they are completed within a short space of time. It was also resolved, if possible, to arrange consultative meetings of the General Council when the regional international Federations meet, that is, the Inter-American, European and Indo-Pacific Federations. The President stated that he hoped that each Federation may be able to programme its gatherings at three-yearly intervals, so that each year a Federation meeting is held in a different part of the world. It was resolved to hold a consultative General Council meeting during the Inter-American Congress in Argentina in March 1979.

It was noted that 22 General Council Members had been present at the Council meeting at Durham, whereas only 9 members were attending the meetings in Varanasi and Adyar. It was therefore agreed that periodic legislative meetings of the Council may be held outside India, in order to enable a larger number of the members of the Council to participate in decision-making. It was therefore resolved to propose an addition to Rule 4 (b) of the International Rules and Regulations as follows: "...

or may be of a legislative nature upon the decision of the General Council taken at least one year in advance". This resolution will be circulated for voting.

Proposal for next World Congress:

It was resolved to accept the recommendation of the Durham Council Meeting that a World Congress be held sometime in 1982 with the East and Central African Section as host. It was proposed that the Congress be held either early in 1982 or towards the end of the year shortly before the Adyar Convention. The President is to write to the General Secretary of the East and Central African Section for his recommendation, before a decision is taken on the date.

Adyar Estate and Departments:

(a) *Employees' wages, etc:* There has been a revision of the wage structure during 1978, with no full-time employee receiving less than Rs. 210 per month. The Adyar Employees Fund is still being kept open for donations. However, it was reiterated that the Society should not rely on donations to meet the wages of employees and that these should be paid out of regular sources of income.

(b) *Shrines:* It was reported that the Sikh Temple had been completed from donations received and had been opened in December 1978. It is being maintained by donations. It was agreed that the landscaping around the Temple should be kept to a minimum, so as not to serve as a further drain on the Society's funds.

It was agreed that the general policy of not adding to the Shrines on the Estate be adhered to and no effort be made to complete the Jewish Synagogue for the time being. A small fund of about Rs. 8,000 is being held in the Treasury towards the construction of this. It was pointed out that the small Anjenaya Temple near the Buddhist Temple appears to be gaining in popularity amongst residents. It was agreed that the Society should not encourage within its precincts adherence to traditional forms of religion, as its function is to reform and broaden religious practice. Although individual residents may be permitted to worship at the temple, it was agreed that organised ceremonies should not be permitted in future.

(c) *Departments; management studies; programmes:*

It was agreed that in view of the financial situation, a firm control is required over all the departments at the International Headquarters. The President reported that he was reappointing Mr. R. Gopalaratnam as General Manager.

Vasanta Press:

The Vice-President reported on the difficulties experienced by T. P. H. London and Wheaton in obtaining the Adyar publications. They proposed that Adyar grant rights to them to publish its copyright titles with payment of royalty. It was agreed that this possibility may be investigated, and its profitability compared with the printing of the works in Adyar and their shipping overseas. Mr. K. N. Ramanathan, Manager T. P. H. Adyar, pointed out that a large percentage of the T. P. H. Adyar publications is sold to the western market and if publication rights are granted to the other publishing houses, the work in Adyar will be greatly diminished. It was agreed that more should be done to build up the eastern market for Theosophical books. It was also agreed that more

use should be made of the offset press in reprinting work. The overall viability of the Vasanta Press in relation to the present international publishing situation requires careful investigation, and it was resolved to instruct the Executive Committee to proceed with the investigation in depth promptly.

Archives:

It was reported that copying of microfilms had proceeded very slowly in the past year owing to staffing problems. It was resolved to investigate the possibility of obtaining microfiche equipment as scholars are using this nowadays.

Relationship with United Nations:

The Vice-President reported on discussions she had had on the matter with members in the United States who are associated with the United Nations. Consultative status seems to present certain difficulties. However, it was agreed to pursue the possibility of some sort of liaison through UNESCO.

Administration of Funds for International work:

It was agreed that a procedure should be laid down for utilization of funds for international work. It was also agreed that the General Council should be given an annual statement of the funds. A Committee consisting of Miss Joy Mills, Mr. Wallace Slater and Mrs. Radha Burnier (the President *ex-officio*) was set up to consider and draft a procedure for management of the funds. The Vice-President also put forward the suggestion of a programme budget for international work which may be projected by this committee. This was agreed to.

History of the Theosophical Society:

Mr. Seymour Ballard reported that he had written a brief history of the Theosophical Society for the T. S. in America during the previous year and he had been given to understand that further work on this was being carried out there. As Dr. Hugh Shearman is unlikely to be able to proceed with his work on the history of the Society for some time, other possibilities will be investigated.

Confirmation of Voting:

(i) Election of three Additional Members for the years 1979, 1980 and 1981.

The results of the voting were as follows:

	<i>For</i>	<i>Against</i>	<i>Abstaining</i>	<i>Total</i>
Mrs. Rukmini Devi Arundale	39	2	1	42
Mrs. Radha Burnier	42	—	—	42
Mr. K. N. Ramanathan	41	1	—	42

The three above Additional Members were declared elected.

(ii) Amendments to Rule 10.

The results of the voting for the various clauses of Rule 10 were as follows:

	Yes	No	Abstaining
[1] The procedure for election to the office of President shall be as follows:	29	—	—
[2] (a) Seven months before the expiration of a President's term of office, or within three days of the office becoming vacant, <i>the Executive Committee shall appoint a special Committee consisting of three members of the Theosophical Society in good standing including the Secretary, but excluding any candidate for the office of President, to carry out the election procedure as hereinunder detailed.</i>	36	—	—
[3] <i>This Committee shall be known as the Election Committee and shall be answerable only to the Executive Committee.</i>	36	—	—
[4] <i>It shall be automatically dissolved on the declaration of the voting result.</i>	36	—	—
[5] (b) <i>Immediately on its appointment, the Election Committee shall instruct the Secretary to send out, within seven days, a written call for nominations for the office of President from the members of the General Council.</i>	35	—	—
[6] <i>The call for nominations shall be sent by airmail or other expeditious means if airmail be unavailable, followed one week later by a second (duplicate) call.</i>	36	—	—
[7] (c) Any member of the Society in good standing, <i>having been a member for at least ten consecutive years immediately preceding his nomination</i> , may be nominated.	35	1	—
[8] Each member of the General Council who is a General Secretary, Regional Secretary or Organizing Secretary, shall be entitled to make three nominations <i>and shall consult his Governing Body before making nominations.</i>	35	—	—
[9] <i>The President shall be entitled to make three nominations.</i>	34	2	—
[10] <i>The Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer and each Additional Member of the General Council who is not a Regional Secretary or Organizing Secretary shall be entitled to make one nomination.</i>	30	6	—
[11] It shall be the responsibility of the nominator to see that his nomination(s) <i>together with the written consent of the nominee(s) reach the Secretary within ten weeks of the date of the call for nominations.</i>	35	1	—
[12] (d) At the expiration of <i>ten weeks</i> , the <i>Election Committee</i> shall place all the nominations received, together with the relevant papers, before the Executive Committee at a meeting especially convened for the purpose.	36	—	—
[13] At such meeting the Executive Committee shall examine the nominations.	36	—	—

	Yes	No	Abstaining
[14] <i>The three† nominees having the highest number of nominations shall alone be qualified to be on the voting list, but if two (or more) nominees qualify for the last place on the voting list, they shall both (or all) be included in the list.</i>	36	—	—
[15] <i>No nominee shall be included in the voting list unless supported by at least twelve nominations.</i>	32	4	—
[16] <i>The names of the nominees who thus qualify for inclusion shall be listed in alphabetical order.</i>	36	—	—
[17] <i>This list, as finalized by the Executive Committee, shall be the voting list and shall not be subject to challenge.</i>	35	—	—
[18] (e) <i>The Secretary shall then immediately communicate in writing by airmail or other expeditious means (followed one week later by a second and duplicate communication) the voting list together with biographical data of the candidates in accordance with Appendix A to these Rules, to the General Secretaries, Regional Secretaries, Organizing Secretaries, and Presidential Representatives and to the Lodges (Branches) and Fellows-at-large attached to Headquarters.</i>	35	—	—
[19] <i>Each General Secretary, Regional Secretary, Organizing Secretary and Presidential Representative shall make known the names of the candidates and their biographical data to the members in his area and take the votes in accordance with the instructions in Appendix B to these Rules of the individual members on the rolls of his National Society or area of administration who have been members in good standing for two full years as on the date of the call for nominations, and shall communicate the result to the Secretary in accordance with the instructions given in Appendix B to these Rules.</i>	35	1	—
[20] <i>The Election Committee shall take the votes in accordance with the instructions given in Appendix B of these Rules of the members of the Lodges (Branches) and Fellows-at-large attached to Headquarters who have been members in good standing for two full years as on the date of the call for nominations.</i>	35	1	—
[21] <i>The voting results must reach the Secretary within fifteen weeks of the date of issue of the voting list by him.</i>	36	—	—

Votes

Three Five No Vote

† Number of nominees 20 6 10

	Yes	No	Abstaining
[22] If only one name remains on the voting list, the vote shall be taken on a "For" or "Against" ballot.	36	—	—
[23] (f) At the expiration of <i>fifteen weeks</i> from the date of issue of the voting list by the Secretary, the voting results shall be totalled by the <i>Election Committee</i> and placed <i>before the Executive Committee</i> .	36	—	—
[24] <i>Within three days of the closing date of voting</i> , the candidate shown to have received the largest number of votes shall be declared elected President and shall assume office thirty days thereafter.	35	—	—
[25] In the event of a tie, or of the rejection of a single candidate in a "For" or "Against" ballot, or of a candidate on the voting list dying or being so seriously incapacitated as to be unable to carry out the Presidential duties if elected, after the despatch of the voting list and before the final totalling of votes the nomination and election procedure shall be repeated, <i>commencing within seven days from the notification of the fact to the Secretary</i> , and the President in office or the Vice-President if he is temporarily filling such office, shall continue therein until a new President assumes office.	35	1	—
[26] <i>Note: A member is in good standing if his dues have been paid for the last official year to his Section, Regional Association or Presidential Agency or in the case of Lodges (Branches) attached direct to Adyar and Fellows-at-large, to the Secretary or Treasurer concerned.</i>	35	—	—

Appendix A: Biographical Data of Presidential Candidates

[27] Each candidate shall submit to the Secretary biographical data not exceeding two hundred words.	36	—	—
[28] The following information shall be included: (a) date and place of birth (b) education (c) past and present occupations (d) date of joining the Theosophical Society (e) work done for the Theosophical Society.	36	—	—
[29] Other information may be included but must be factual and shall not contain statements of opinion or policy.	36	—	—
[30] The biographical data for circulation shall be drawn up by the Election Committee on the basis of the information supplied by the candidates, and shall be approved by the Executive Committee (excluding any candidates for election) before being issued.	36	—	—

	Yes	No	Abstaining
<i>Appendix B: Voting Procedure for a Presidential Election</i>			
[31] <i>Note:</i> Where the term "General Secretary" is used, it refers also to Regional Secretary, Organizing Secretary and Presidential Representative. Where the term "Section" is used, it refers also to National Society, Regional Association and Presidential Agency.	36	—	—
[32] (a) The Section shall print the voting papers and biographical data as soon as the names of the nominees are announced.	36	—	—
[33] Where practicable, all the papers should be in the language(s) of the area.	35	—	—
[34] It shall be the responsibility of the General Secretary to ensure that the voting papers together with the biographical data in full are sent to each member.	36	—	—
[35] Other material concerning the candidates shall not be circulated.	36	—	—
[36] (b) The voting paper should consist of two parts: the voting slip, and the letter form which the member signs and addresses to the General Secretary.	36	—	—
[37] Each member should be given two envelopes, a small one in which he will place only the voting slip and seal it, and a larger one addressed to the General Secretary, in which he will enclose the small sealed envelope and the letter form signed by him.	36	—	—
[38] (c) As the papers are received, the General Secretary should open the larger envelopes addressed to him to ensure validity of the votes by checking the eligibility of the voter who has signed the letter form.	34	2	—
[39] He shall then put the small sealed envelopes containing the voting slips into a sealed box.	36	—	—
[40] This box should be opened on the appointed day by the scrutineers appointed by the Executive Committee of the Section (preferably not members of that Committee).	36	—	—
[41] The scrutineers should open the small envelopes and count the votes given to each candidate (or the number of "For" or "Against" votes if there is but one candidate).	36	—	—
[42] (d) The General Secretary shall record the result of the count on Form C which will be supplied from the Secretary's Office at the same time as the list to be voted upon.	36	—	—
[43] He shall place Form C in the small envelope labelled "Voting Result..... Section", seal the envelope	36	—	—

	Yes	No	Abstaining
and enclose it in the larger envelope addressed to the Secretary.			
[44] This must be sent by air-mail or other expeditious means to reach the Secretary within fifteen weeks from the date of issue of the voting list by him.	36	—	—
[45] (c) The small envelope containing the voting results of the Section shall be kept unopened in a sealed box by the Secretary until the close of voting.	36	—	—
[46] It shall then be opened by the Election Committee.	36	—	—
[47] The larger envelope shall be kept separately and shall not be destroyed until after the voting results are announced, and under the authority of the Executive Committee.	36	—	—
[48] (f) If the voting returns have not been received by the Secretary within twelve weeks of the date of issue of the voting list by him, he shall cable the General Secretary concerned, informing him of this fact.	36	—	—
[49] The General Secretary shall immediately send to the Secretary by air-mail or other expeditious means a second (duplicate) voting return in a sealed envelope marked "Duplicate".	36	—	—
[50] Cabled results will not be accepted.	36	—	—
[51] Voting results received after the closing date will be destroyed unopened by the Secretary in the presence of three members of the Executive Committee, nominated by the said Committee, and the particulars of the Section from which the voting results were received and the date on which they were received, shall be recorded in writing, and the Secretary and the three members of the Executive Committee shall affix their signatures thereto.	36	—	—

In accordance with Rule 49 of the Rules and Regulations, all the clauses of the amended Rule 10 may be considered adopted having received the required number of votes. However, as a number of comments and suggestions had been submitted with the voting papers, these were considered and it was agreed to recirculate for voting several of the clauses for possible further amendment, as follows:

- (a) *Clause 5* "(b) Immediately on its appointment, the Election Committee shall instruct the Secretary to send out, within seven days, a written call for nominations for the office of President from the members of the General Council."

As the phrasing of this clause is ambiguous, it is proposed that it be amended as follows:

"Immediately on its appointment, the Election Committee shall instruct the Secretary to send out to the members of the General Council, within seven days, a written call for nominations for the office of President".

- (b) *Clause 24*: "Within three days of the closing date of voting, the candidate shown to have received the largest number of votes shall be declared elected President and shall assume office thirty days thereafter".

It is proposed that this clause be modified as follows:

"Within three days of the closing date of voting, the candidate *who has* received the largest number of votes, shall be declared elected President and shall assume office *not later than* thirty days thereafter".

- (c) *Clause 33*: "Where practicable, all the papers should be in the language(s) of the area".

It is proposed that this should read:

"Where practicable *in the view of the General Secretary*, all the papers should be in the language(s) of the area."

- (d) *Clauses 36, 37, and 41*:

Clause 36: "(b) The voting paper should consist of two parts: the voting slip, and the letter form which the member signs and addresses to the General Secretary".

Clause 37: "Each member should be given two envelopes, a small one in which he will place only the voting slip and seal it, and a larger one addressed to the General Secretary, in which he will enclose the small sealed envelope and the letter form signed by him".

Clause 41: "The scrutineers should open the small envelopes and count the votes given to each candidate (or the number of "For" or "Against" votes if there is but one candidate)".

It is proposed that in each of these clauses, the word "should" be amended to "shall".

- (e) *Clause 38*: "(c) As the papers are received, the General Secretary should open the larger envelopes addressed to him to ensure validity of the votes by checking the eligibility of the voter who has signed the letter form".

It is proposed that this clause be amended as follows:

"As the papers are received, the General Secretary, *with the scrutineers, appointed by the Executive Committee of the Section (preferably not members of that Committee)*, shall open the larger envelopes addressed to him...".

- (f) *Clause 40*: "This box should be opened on the appointed day by the scrutineers appointed by the Executive Committee of the Section (preferably not members of that Committee)."

It is proposed that this clause be amended as follows:

"This box *shall* be opened on the appointed day by the scrutineers. *Voting papers received after this date shall be treated as invalid and shall be destroyed unopened*".

(iii) *Amendments to Rule 14(a):*

"The General Council shall at each Annual Meeting appoint an Executive Committee for the ensuing year, or until its next Annual Meeting. . .".

The voting was as follows:

<i>For</i>	<i>Against</i>	<i>Abstaining</i>	<i>Total</i>
36	Nil	Nil	36

The amendment was adopted, having received the required number of votes.

(iv) *Addition of sub-section (b) to Rule 14:*

"The General Council may delegate to the Executive Committee any of its powers and authority in the management of the business and affairs of the Society except:

1. The power to amend or repeal the Rules;
2. The power to borrow money and incur indebtedness;
3. Such powers as are specifically reserved to the President.

The Executive Committee shall have such powers as are delegated to it by the General Council and as are specified in the Rules. The Executive Committee may recommend to the General Council programmes, policies or activities, but it may not initiate projects requiring major funds not within the current approved budget."

The voting was as follows:

<i>For</i>	<i>Against</i>	<i>Abstaining</i>	<i>Total</i>
34	1	1	36

The addition was adopted, having received the required number of votes.

(v) *Addition of sub-section (c) to Rule 29:*

"Members may not be full members of more than one Lodge (Branch) at a time, but may be accepted as Affiliated or Honorary Members of Lodges (Branches) other than the one in which they are full members. Affiliated or Honorary Members may possess such rights and privileges as are accorded to them by the Lodge (Branch) in which they hold such membership, but they shall not be founder members of new Lodges (Branches). Affiliated or Honorary Members are not to be counted in the international records or vote in international elections other than through the Lodge (Branch) in which they hold full membership".

The voting was as follows:

<i>For</i>	<i>Against</i>	<i>Abstaining</i>	<i>Total</i>
33	3	Nil	36

The addition was adopted, having received the required number of votes. However, it had been pointed out at the meeting in Durham that Rule 30, para 2, requires modification to prevent any possible conflict with the amended Rule 29. It was therefore resolved to refer to the Committee on Structure and Procedures, Rule 30 for modification to make it consistent,

It was also pointed out that ambiguity occurs in the reference to Founder Members of new Lodges or Branches in the Amendment. The intention is to prevent members from being Founder Members of new Lodges (Branches) and at the same time retaining their full membership in another Lodge or Branch. It was agreed to refer the Rule back to the Committee on Structures and Procedures for rewording to remove the ambiguity.

(vi) *Amendments to Rule 35(a).*

“A National Society may be formed by the President, upon the application of seven or more chartered Lodges (Branches), *consisting of at least 70 members of the Society in good standing*”.

The voting was as follows:

<i>For</i>	<i>Against</i>	<i>Abstaining</i>	<i>Total</i>
34	2	Nil	36

The amendment was adopted, having received the required number of votes.

(vii) *Amendment to Rule 35(c).*

“The President shall have authority at his discretion to issue (and to cancel) a certificate of *Regional Association* to any national or territorially adjacent group of Lodges (Branches) not sufficient in number or otherwise unable to form or to maintain a National Society, as defined in these Rules, or where in his judgment territorial division or other causes have made such *Regional Association* necessary or desirable. Any such *Regional Association* may elect an Organizing Secretary or other executive officer or officers for the purpose of further organization and the transaction of business.

A *Regional Association* shall not appoint a General Secretary (as the term is used in these Rules) nor be represented on the General Council. In all other respects the Rules applicable to National Societies and to General Secretaries shall apply to *Regional Associations* and to their chief executives.”

The voting was as follows:

<i>For</i>	<i>Against</i>	<i>Abstaining</i>	<i>Total</i>
35	1	Nil	36

The amendment was adopted, having received the required number of votes.

(viii) *Amendments to Rule 35 (d):*

“The President shall have authority at his discretion to appoint and to withdraw appointments of Presidential *Representatives* to act under his instruction for the purposes of conducting the business and administration of the Society in any place and in any respect not inconsistent with these Rules. Each such appointment and the power delegated to each such *Representative* shall be evidenced by a Letter of Appointment referring to this Rule.”

The voting was as follows:

<i>For</i>	<i>Against</i>	<i>Abstaining</i>	<i>Total</i>
36	Nil	Nil	36

The amendment was adopted, having received the required number of votes.

(ix) *Amendments to Rule 36, para 1.*

“ and may be cancelled by the same authority *after due inquiry and consultation with the National Society and the Lodge (Branch) concerned.*

The voting was as follows:

<i>For</i>	<i>Against</i>	<i>Abstaining</i>	<i>Total</i>
31	5	Nil	36

The amendment may be considered adopted having received the required number of votes. However, because of the large number of votes against and several comments on the matter, it was resolved to consider the amendment further. Several General Secretaries had stated that they considered that the General Secretaries should be given the power to withdraw a Lodge Charter without prior reference to the International President as occasions arise in which this is a matter of urgency. The proposal was put forward that a two-step process be evolved in which the General Secretary withdraws the Lodge's Charter, preventing it from acting as an entity. However, the Lodge may then appeal to the International President who will give his decision after due consultation with the parties concerned. Only after this will the Charter be actually cancelled. It was resolved to refer the matter to the Committee on Structure and Procedures for consideration and possible drafting of a modified amendment along such lines.

(x) *Amendments to Rule 36, para 2:*

“ If at any time the number of members in good standing of a National Society falls below 70 *and the number of Lodges (Branches) falls below 5*, the Secretary shall report that fact to the General Council. If during the following three years the membership of the National Society remains below 70 *and the number of Lodges (Branches) below 5*, the General Council shall then call upon the President to withdraw its Charter.” (*amendments in italics*)

The voting on the amendment was as follows:

<i>For</i>	<i>Against</i>	<i>Abstaining</i>	<i>Total</i>
29	7	Nil	36

Although sufficient votes had been received to adopt the amendment, note was taken of the fact that several strong objections had been raised by some of the National Societies which would be affected by the amended Rule. Note was also taken of the fact that the recommendation of the General Council Meeting at Durham was that the amendment be reconsidered even if the voting was sufficient to pass it.

Objections raised by National Societies concerned included their concern that loss of status as National Societies would interfere with their work; that difficulties would arise with property which is held in the name of the National Society and with bequests which had been made to the National Society as a body; and with the possibility of loss of identity by being swallowed up within a larger theosophical entity, such as another Section or Regional Association. The suggestion was made at the Durham meeting that the definitions of a National Society and a Section be reconsidered so that they do not depend on the number of lodges for their existence. It was suggested that more flexible criteria be evolved to cope with different circumstances in different areas. The possibility was mentioned that Study Centres be given some sort of recognised status in the

international Rules and count towards the identity of a National Society or Section. (see also 2 (a) (iii) p. 13)

It was resolved to refer the amendment back to the Committee on Structure and Procedures for further consideration taking cognizance of the various comments raised by concerned members of the Council.

(xi) *Amendments to Rule 41 (formerly Rule 41 (a)):*

"The President, Secretary and Treasurer shall together have the power to fix or vary fees and charges payable to the General Treasury by Lodges (Branches) not comprised within the limits of any National Society: for Charters of such Lodges (Branches); for Diplomas (Certificates) of Membership and for the Annual Subscription of Fellows of such Lodges (Branches); and in the case of Lodges (Branches) comprised within the jurisdiction of a National Society, Regional Association or Presidential Agency for Charters when printed at or supplied by the Adyar Headquarters. The Secretary shall inform the General Council within three months of any changes in fees and charges. The Annual Subscription of Fellows other than Fellows-at-large or members of Lodges (Branches) attached directly to Adyar shall be the amount prescribed for Annual Subscription by the by-laws or other regulations of the National Society to which each Fellow is attached, or equivalents." (amendments in italics)

The voting on the amendments was as follows:

<i>For</i>	<i>Against</i>	<i>Abstaining</i>	<i>Total</i>
36	Nil	Nil	36

The amendment was adopted, having received the required number of votes.

(xii) *Deletion of Rule 41 (b):*

The Rule to be deleted is as follows:

"New members joining otherwise than at the beginning of the year shall at the time of admission pay their Annual Subscription pro rata for the remaining period of the fiscal year at the rate of Rs. 1.13 per quarter or as fixed by the President, Secretary and Treasurer."

Voting on the above deletion was as follows:

<i>For</i>	<i>Against</i>	<i>Abstaining</i>	<i>Total</i>
35	1	Nil	36

The deletion of the Rule was adopted, having received the required number of votes.

(xiii) *Amendments to Rule 42, para 2:*

"Fellows-at-large not resident within the territory of a National Society shall pay such Entrance Fee, Diploma Fee and Annual Subscription as shall be fixed by the President, Secretary and Treasurer. The Secretary shall inform the General Council of any changes in such fees within three months of their being made." (amendments in italics)

The voting on the above amendment was as follows:

<i>For</i>	<i>Against</i>	<i>Abstaining</i>	<i>Total</i>
35	Nil	1	36

The amendments were adopted having received the required number of votes.

(xiv) *Amendments to Rule 46:*

"The Annual General Meeting or Convention of the Society shall be held *at such time and in such place as shall be determined by the Executive Committee in June of each year, but such Annual General Meeting or Convention must be held within six months of the close of the Society's year and may be held outside India not more than once in every three years. National Societies* desirous of inviting the Convention and able to make due arrangements for its accommodation, shall send the invitation *at least twelve (12) months prior to the Convention, with particulars of the arrangements they propose to make.*" (*amendments in italics*)

The voting of the above amendments was as follows:

<i>For</i>	<i>Against</i>	<i>Abstaining</i>	<i>Total</i>
36	Nil	Nil	36

The amendments were adopted, having received the required number of votes.

(xv) *Amendments to Rule 47:*

"*Not more than once in every seven years a World Congress of the Theosophical Society may be held at a place and date to be fixed by the General Council, but so as not to interfere with the Annual Convention.*" (*amendments in italics*)

The voting on the above amendments was as follows:

<i>For</i>	<i>Against</i>	<i>Abstaining</i>	<i>Total</i>
36	Nil	Nil	36

The amendment was adopted, having received the required number of votes.

Report of the Non-English Publication Fund Committee for the year ending 30th September 1978 and reappointment of the Committee.

The report of the committee was received and considered.

It was resolved to reappoint the following members of the committee.

Mr. John Coats, *President (Chairman)*

Miss Joy Mills, *Vice-President (Vice-Chairman)*

Mr. K. N. Ramanathan, *Manager T.P.H., Adyar*

Mr. Clarence Peterson, *Publications Manager, T.P.H. Wheaton*

Mrs. Madeleine Leslie-Smith, *Chairman, European Federation*

It was resolved to appoint as members of the Committee Miss Ianthe Hoskins to replace the late Mr. Michael Maxwell who had been Chairman T.P.H. London, and also the incoming President of the Inter-American Federation who will replace Mr. Luis Spairani.

Appointment of Committee on Structure and Procedures:

The following members of the Committee on Structure and Procedures were reappointed.

Mr. John Coats, *President (Chairman)*
 Miss Joy Mills, *Vice-President (Vice-Chairman)*
 Dr. Jean Raymond, *Secretary*
 Mrs. Radha Burnier, *Additional Member, General Council*
 Mrs. Madeleine Leslie-Smith, *Chairman, European Federation*
 Mrs. Emily Sellon, *Additional Member, General Council*

It was resolved not to reappoint Mr. Luis Spairani who is relinquishing his position as President of the Inter-American Federation. Mrs. Radha Burnier is to remain on the committee although she is no longer General Secretary of the Indian Section. It was resolved to appoint Dr. Hugh Shearman, Additional Member, General Council, to the Committee.

Report of the Executive Committee for the year ending 31st October 1978:

The Report as circulated was considered. It was resolved to rescind the appointment of Mr. R. Gopalaratnam as Secretary of the Society during the absence of Dr. Jean Raymond overseas, and to appoint him as Deputy Secretary instead with retroactive effect.

Treasurer's Report and Accounts for the year ending 31st March 1978, and Budget for the year ending 31st March 1980:

The Treasurer's Report and Accounts for the year ending 31st March 1978, the Revised Budget for the year ending 31st March 1979 and the Budget for the year ending 31st March 1980 were considered together.

The Treasurer's Report and the Accounts were considered in detail. It was pointed out that changes in the accounting procedure in the year under report include the crediting of fees and dues amounting to Rs. 135,531 to the Income and Expenditure Account, instead of to the General Fund. In spite of this, the net deficit for the year amounts to Rs. 287,890 as against Rs. 285,177 in the previous year. If the fees and dues had been credited to the General Fund as previously, the deficit would have been Rs. 423,421. The Treasurer stated that the problem is acute and that as he is not receiving sufficient income to cover the Society's running expenses, he has been forced to utilize Fixed Deposits as they fall due to meet expenditure and has not been able to reinvest them. There is therefore a progressively decreasing income from investments, concurrent with an increase in expenditure, particularly on salaries, wages and allowances. He presented a statement explaining some of the major factors leading to the present situation. The reduction in income and increased expenditure have been contributed to by the following:

- (1) Utilization of the Century Fund for the Centenary Celebrations;
- (2) Utilization for capital works of the money derived from the sale of the rice fields.

Both of these amounts had been invested in Fixed Deposits and had been producing considerable income.

- (3) Expenditure on salaries, wages and allowances has increased considerably in the past two years due largely to revision of the wage scales and to Provident Fund payments including payment of arrears from 1974.
- (4) The amount of fees and dues received from various national societies, etc., has been decreasing due to the restrictions placed by various governments on remittances overseas.

It was noted that the revised budget for the year ending 31st March 1979 projected a deficit of Rs. 338,947, and the budget for the year ending 31st March 1980 projected a deficit of Rs. 352,772.

The proposed remedial measures to reduce the deficit further included the following:

Adyar Library:

Reduction of publications over the next five year period; increase in fees for readers and borrowers; increase in service charge for supplying microfilms to scholars, especially for sending these overseas.

Bhojanasala:

Fixing of charges for mess income to cover the mess expenditure (charges for boarding had recently been increased and may produce the desired result).

Leadbeater Chambers:

Mess income should be adequate to cover mess expenditure; rates for both boarding and lodging in Leadbeater Chambers to be increased by approximately 50% for members and non-members.

Garden Department:

Reduction of expenditure on the ornamental part of the garden; use of trees and shrubs instead of annuals for beautification; postponement of the project to build a greenhouse; all attempts to be made to increase income from the Garden Department and to reduce the deficit.

Maintenance Department:

Further reduction of staff if possible; investigation of the possibility of using contractors for maintenance work such as plumbing, electrical, etc., instead of employing a full-time staff for this; increase in charges of electricity to cover expenses on the generator in addition to the purchase of electricity from the Tamil Nadu Electricity Board and expenditure on electrical maintenance; reduction of general maintenance for the next two years except for essential repairs.

Theosophical Publishing House:

An attempt to be made to reduce staff and improve efficiency; an attempt to be made to increase income by a more dynamic sales policy, especially in eastern markets; investigation of the possibility of bringing out Indian editions of the books brought out by the other Theosophical Publishing Houses for sale on the eastern markets.

Vasanta Press:

Investigation of the working of the Press is still under way and therefore detailed discussion of ways to improve the efficiency of the Press was not undertaken. It was reported that there had been a great increase in the cost of paper in India over the past two years and in the preceding month a further 20% increase had been announced.

International Offices:

Sharing of staff between the President's and Secretary's offices, especially during the period when the President is away from Adyar and his staff is not fully engaged; reduction of workers requiring the full overseas allowance if possible and utilization of workers willing to work in an honorary capacity or to accept a reduced allowance.

The Treasurer reported that the 3% conversion loan (1946-1986) at face value Rs. 261,200 had been sold and reinvested at a higher rate. The accounts for the year ending 31st March 1978 were passed.

It was agreed that a strong administrator is required to implement the various recommendations made and to oversee the various departments at the Headquarters. It was recommended that the General Manager be such a person. The Executive Committee should not permit the overall budget to be exceeded, although it may adjust expenditure between departments within the limits of the budget.

It was resolved to adopt the revised budget for the year ending 31st March 1979, as circulated. It was also resolved to instruct the Executive Committee to reduce the budgeted deficit for the year ending 31st March 1980 from Rs. 351,772 to Rs. 200,000. Details as to how this could be achieved must be worked out by the Committee together with the Finance Committee in Adyar. With the amendment to the overall deficit, the consolidated budget for the year ending 31st March 1980 was adopted.

The Capital Expenditure Budget for the year ending 31st March 1979 was considered. It was adopted with the decision not to proceed with the following items for the time being: purchase of book ends for Adyar Library (Rs. 14,000); filing cabinets for Archives (2) (Rs. 2,000); motor car (Rs. 45,000); typewriter (1) (Rs. 4,000 approx.); also to postpone fluorescent lighting of streets (Rs. 5,000); underground telephone cable provision (Rs. 9,000); rearranging drinking water and garden water supply connection (Rs. 12,000); greenhouse for garden (Rs. 6,000).

It was agreed that there should be no capital expenditure for the year ending 31st March 1980, except for urgent and essential items. The Treasurer was not aware of any items of this nature at the time of the meeting.

The following recommendations were agreed upon:

1. The President is to make an appeal to the members around the world for donations to meet the deficit and to build up the capital funds, so that income may be increased.
2. Sections holding funds for international work are to be requested to make contributions out of the income derived from these funds.
3. The sale of the old Olcott School premises, sanctioned previously by the General Council, is to be proceeded with. No offer should be accepted unless the full market value is offered, and preferably a cash payment or short-term payment should be demanded.

It was resolved that the Finance Committee be instructed to go into the budget in detail in accordance with the wishes of the General Council that the deficit be reduced to Rs. 200,000 overall. The revised budget is then to be submitted to the Executive Committee for approval and circulated to the General Council by post for adoption. The Staff Committee and Finance Committee are to go into the staffing of all departments, including all workers receiving allowances. It was reiterated that where possible, staff is to be reduced and workers requiring full allowances may be replaced by those who are willing to work honorarily or for a smaller amount, provided they are able to do the job.

The Treasurer pointed out that he may be facing a difficulty in meeting the payments for February and March 1979, and possibly up to July 1979, when a Fixed Deposit of Rs. 400,000 falls due. He was given permission to raise a loan not to exceed Rs. 200,000 on the Fixed Deposit, if necessary, to meet immediate payments.

Further measures to meet the crisis were proposed:

1. The President to send out a letter to the General Secretaries to make a special effort for the collection of funds on Adyar Day in view of the urgent need and to remit the collections as soon as possible. This request can be combined with the general appeal for funds.
2. All National Societies, etc., be asked to remit whatever dues they are holding for Adyar as soon as possible.
3. Consideration be given to increasing the percentage of dues remitted by the National Societies to Adyar from 15% to 20%. This proposal is to be circulated to General Secretaries for their views.
4. An appeal to be circulated around the world for voluntary workers with specific skills required at Adyar to come for a period of two years' service. Those receiving allowances at Adyar be asked voluntarily to reduce them, if possible.

It was reported that two Indian banks had shown an interest in a joint development project for building a complex providing bank premises and shops or flats. One enquiry had been made by the Canara Bank regarding the building of premises in the corner of Besant Gardens and adjacent to the new Olcott School buildings where Besant Avenue and Apollo Avenue meet. The other proposal had been received from the Karnataka Bank for the old Olcott School premises and was similar in nature. The proposals were that the banks would lend money to the Society for the construction of the building, the Society repaying the loan over a period of at least ten years, the repayment being offset against rentals derived by the Society from the banks and other tenants. During discussion it was pointed out that these proposals will not help the Society out of its immediate financial difficulties. The question was also raised whether the Society wishes to engage itself in such commercial ventures, although ultimately they may be a source of considerable income. It was agreed that the proposals be investigated in greater detail before any final decision is reached on them.

It was agreed that the Treasurer's statement on the Society's financial situation should be circulated to all General Secretaries after some modifications. The Vice-President and Mrs. Burnier were requested to propose suitable modifications in the statement.

It was agreed that ways and means be investigated for deriving revenue from the Damodar Gardens bungalow and grounds. It was pointed out that the Society had spent

Rs. 77,000 on repairs and renovations to the property since it was vacated by the Besant Theosophical High School. A resolution was passed as follows:

In view of the serious financial situation prevailing at the International Headquarters of the Society, it seems essential to consider immediate steps by which the Adyar Estate can be made more productive, providing the much needed revenue to meet operating expenses.

With this end in view, the General Council agrees to the necessity to consider increased utilization of Damodar Gardens and Besant Gardens.

Appointment of Auditors for the year ending 31st March 1980:

Messrs. N. A. Naganathan & Co. were reappointed as Auditors for the year ending 31st March 1980, on the same terms as in the preceding year.

Appointment of Executive Committee for 1979:

The following were appointed to the Executive Committee for 1979:

President	}	<i>Ex-Officio</i>
Vice-President		
Secretary		
Treasurer		

Mrs. Radha Burnier—*General Council Member*

Mr. K. N. Ramanathan—*General Council Member*

Mr. R. Gopalaratnam

Mr. Robin Keefe

Mr. C. Seshadri

Mr. K. Visvanathan

Appointment of the Finance Committees for 1979:

(a) *International*: The present members of the International Finance Committee were reappointed, namely Mr. John Sellon, Mr. Ronald Bird, and Mr. Brian Parry. It was also resolved to add Mr. Curt Berg to the Committee.

(b) *Local (Adyar)*: It was resolved to reappoint the present members of the Adyar Finance Committee as follows:

President	}	<i>Ex-Officio</i>
Vice-President		
Secretary		
Treasurer		
General Manager		

Mrs. Radha Burnier—*Executive Committee Member*

Mr. K. Visvanathan—*Executive Committee Member*

Mr. N. Ananthanarayan—*Auditor*

Consideration of obtaining grants from the Government and other Bodies for Research Projects:

It was resolved to investigate the possibility of obtaining from Government and other sources grants for specific research projects carried out in the Adyar Library and Research Centre and in the Centre for Theosophical Studies and Research.

It was also resolved to investigate the possibility of obtaining exemption for donations to the Society for research projects under Section 80 (G) of the Income Tax Act. There is a possibility that if exemption is given for research projects donations to the whole organization will become exempt.

Acceptance of the Theosophical Societies in Spain and Indonesia as component National Societies of the T.S.:

According to the laws of their respective Governments the Theosophical Societies in Spain and Indonesia cannot officially be considered component parts of the International Theosophical Society. However, it was resolved that for all intents and purposes, the two national bodies be considered as component parts of the T. S. and their Chief Executive Officers be designated as General Secretaries provided that all other aspects of their constitutions are in consonance with the International Rules and Regulations.

SUMMARY OF STATISTICS, 1978

National Sections (Active) ..	39
Presidential Agencies (Active)	6
Federations formed under Rule 35(c) ..	3
Total Lodges ..	1,165
Total Membership 1977 ..	34,705
Total Membership 1978 ..	34,479
Decrease	226

	No. of Lodges	No. of Members
1. United States of America ..	90	4,955
2. England ..	65	2,077
3. India ..	438	9,657
4. Australia ..	13	1,300
5. Sweden ..	9	310
6. New Zealand ..	17	1,528
7. The Netherlands ..	23	950
8. France ..	36	1,475
9. Italy ..	26	713
10. Germany ..	12	289
11. Cuba ..	19	556
12. Hungary ..	—	—
13. Finland ..	21	502
14. Russia ..	—	—
15. Czechoslovakia ..	—	—
16. Southern Africa ..	8	343
17. Scotland (1976) ..	4	100 (1976)
18. Switzerland ..	8	217
19. Belgium ..	9	230
20. Indonesia* ..	22	765
21. Burma ..	6	127
22. Austria ..	4	239
23. Norway ..	8	147
24. Egypt ..	—	—
25. Denmark ..	7	380
26. Ireland ..	1	63 (1977)
27. Mexico (1977) ..	21	359 (1977)
28. Canada ..	13	319
29. Argentina ..	44	916
30. Chile ..	6	77
31. Brazil ..	39	972
32. Bulgaria ..	—	—
33. Iceland ..	13	559
34. Spain* ..	10	350
35. Portugal ..	13	314
36. Wales ..	2	65
37. Poland ..	—	—
38. Uruguay ..	11	151

* Presidential Agency.

† Federation

	No. of Lodges	No. of Members
39. Puerto Rico ..	3	102
40. Rumania ..	—	—
41. Yugoslavia ..	5	113
42. Sri Lanka ..	7	70
43. Greece ..	5	256
44. Central America ..	13	189
45. Paraguay ..	—	—
46. Peru (see below) ..	—	—
47. The Philippines ..	19	321
48. Colombia ..	9	122
49. East & Central Africa ..	25	1,201
50. Pakistan* (1977) ..	4	172 (1977)
51. Malaysia* (1977) ..	3	60 (1977)
52. Northern Ireland† ..	3	39
53. Israel (see below) ..	—	—
54. Japan (see below) ..	—	—
55. Viet-Nam (No statistics available) ..	—	—
56. Venezuela* (1974) ..	3	40 (1974)
57. West Africa† (1977) ..	10	241 (1977)
58. Bolivia* ..	7	89
59. Canadian Federation† ..	8	89
60. Fellows-at-Large ..	—	106
61. Lodges attached directly to Adyar		
Israel ..	5	90
Peru ..	3	45
Hong Kong ..	1	14
Singapore ..	1	46
Japan ..	1	26
Bangladesh ..	1	29
Cameroon ..	1	14
Total	1,165	34,479

Study Centres:

United States of America ..	60
England ..	20
India ..	21
Australia ..	3
Italy ..	4
Argentina ..	2
Brazil ..	2
Mexico (1978) ..	2
The Philippines ..	2
West Africa ..	5

DR. JEAN RAYMOND,
Secretary.

THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY
ADYAR, MADRAS 600 020, INDIA

ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31ST MARCH 1978

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT OF THE THEOSOPHICAL

EXPENDITURE	PREVIOUS YEAR		Current Year	
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Departmental Results:				
Adyar Library ...	— 55,667.20		— 93,262.54	
Bhojanasala ...	+ 371.64		— 886.97	
Consumer Stores ...	+ 4,484.53		+ 980.16	
Garden Department ...	— 44,628.96		— 38,044.36	
Laundry Department ...	— 8,974.92		— 7,091.18	
Leadbeater Chambers ...	— 5,392.43		+ 1,700.16	
Maintenance Department ...	— 66,222.88		— 172,482.01	
Theosophical Publishing House ...	+ 69,470.84		+ 78,636.47	
Vasanta Press ...	+ 2,242.23		+ 3,439.35	
		104,317.15		227,010.92
Depreciation:				
On Kotagiri Property ...	1,999.50		1,999.50	
On Immovable Property ...	78,147.52		77,363.75	
On Adyar Library Building ...	—		15,729.85	
On Film Projector, Air conditioner and Tape Recorder ...	2,424.30		4,076.00	
On Motor Vehicles ...	10,952.20		15,646.40	
On Movable Property ...	15,220.50		13,116.66	
		108,744.02		127,932.16
Establishment and other Expenses:				
Adyar Newsletter ...	3,271.03		—	
Bad debts ...	115.24		6.09	
Child Welfare Centre ...	6,767.98		6,961.30	
Convention 1977 ...	26,782.36		22,705.45	
Deposit Linked Insurance ...	164.50		4,038.70	
Dispensary ...	15,273.75		15,292.57	
Electricity and water ...	12,676.55		—	
Estate Management ...	16,263.85		14,606.97	
Fire Insurance ...	1,575.76		1,898.92	
Headquarters Department ...	12,293.00		18,186.35	
Information and Public Relations Department ...	5,855.14		10,232.31	
Insurance Fund Administration ...	33.30		746.05	
International Offices—General ...	41,333.43		80,147.70	
International Centre of Theosophical Studies ...	—		2,727.85	
Kotagiri Property Maintenance ...	10,140.16		8,669.67	
Legal and Audit Expenses ...	9,820.17		6,135.35	
Miscellaneous ...	9,425.79		8,201.08	
Movable Properties Dept. ...	31,501.54		37,763.20	
Museum and Archives ...	15,893.54		22,146.29	
Postage, Telegrams and Telephones ...	15,767.35		18,127.88	
Printing and Stationery ...	20,012.66		17,929.69	
P.F. Administration ...	113.30		5,584.95	
Publications to General Secretaries ...	1,853.83		1,816.56	
Repairs and Renewals ...	72,157.27		—	
Retirement Allowances ...	18,373.84		20,939.52	
Sanitary Department ...	21,047.61		23,363.79	
Security Department ...	109,259.74		115,674.37	
Taxes ...	32,592.11		38,674.41	
Travelling & Conveyance ...	1,825.37		1,974.09	
		512,190.17		504,551.11
Gratuity Allocation ...	—	—	—	9,251.00
Loss on Sale of Korestat Copier ...	—	7,035.55	—	—
		732,286.89		868,745.19

ADYAR, MADRAS 600020
18th September, 1978.

FOR THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY
C. R. N. SWAMY,
Hony. Treasurer.

SOCIETY FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 1978

INCOME				PREVIOUS YEAR	Current Year
				Rs.	Rs.
Adyar Newsletter	...	...	...	—	710.68
Donations	...	...	...	12,621.51	10,382.61
Fees and Dues	...	...	...	—	135,530.60
Interest (Net)	...	...	...	337,781.57	317,162.53
Quarters Maintenance	...	...	...	62,613.08	80,878.65
Scrap Sales	...	...	...	—	7,001.20
Sale of Motor Car	...	...	...	—	12,229.80
Sale of Casurina Trees	...	...	...	34,094.21	—
Overhead Charges	...	...	...	—	16,959.60
Excess of Expenditure over Income	...	...	...	285,176.52	287,889.52
				732,286.89	868,745.19

Examined and found correct.
 FOR N. A. NAGANATHAN & CO.,
Chartered Accountants.
 N. ANANTHANARAYANAN (Partner)

BALANCE SHEET OF THE THEOSOPHICAL

LIABILITIES	PREVIOUS YEAR		Current Year	
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
General Fund:				
As per last Balance Sheet ...	4,582,558.90		4,700,167.42	
Add: Receipts during the year:				
Bequests ...	24,468.97		40,742.00	
Donations ...	217,561.85		228,163.53	
Fees and Dues ...	113,195.64		—	
Further compensation received from State Govt. on Land Acquisition Case No 29/70. ...	—		17,505.56	
75th Anniversary Book ...	129.60		25.20	
Adyar Library Building Fund-Transfer ...	—		602,478.70	
Other Transfers ...	47,428.98		43,225.08	
	4,985,343.94		5,632,307.49	
Less: Arrears of E. P. F. contributions for the period 1-12-74 to 31-1-77 paid by Management. ...	—		98,417.10	
	4,985,343.94		5,533,890.39	
Less: Excess of Expenditure over Income ...	285,176.52		287,889.52	
Adyar Besant Commemorative Fund (b) ...		4,700,167.42		5,246,000.87
Exchange Equalisation Fund ...		2,185,924.86		2,206,402.75
Other Funds: (See Notes below)		158,613.58		158,613.58
(i) Of The Society: Interest bearing				
Miscellaneous Funds (a) ...	36,809.28		37,910.82	
Miscellaneous Funds (c) ...	407,263.82		408,271.39	
		444,073.10		446,182.21
(ii) Of The Society: Non-Interest bearing				
President's Travelling Fund ...	30,964.66		40,817.79	
Miscellaneous Funds ...	295,803.17		312,779.38	
		326,767.83		353,597.17
(iii) Of others: Interest bearing ...		109,330.32		100,745.89
(iv) Of others: Non-Interest bearing ...		16,392.28		18,673.79
C/o		7,941,269.39		8,530,216.26

SOCIETY, ADYAR, AS AT 31st MARCH 1978

ASSETS	PREVIOUS YEAR		Current Year	
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Immovable Properties: (At Cost)	199,086.09		199,086.09	
<i>Add: Improvements—Arundale Avenue Subgrading</i> ...	—		4,670.60	
		199,086.09		203,756.69
Lands at Urur (At Cost) ...		3,882.40		3,882.40
Buildings at Adyar (At Cost)				
As per last Balance Sheet ...	2,718,995.82		3,009,363.91	
Additions ...	290,368.09		69,941.08	
	3,009,363.91		3,079,304.99	
<i>Less: Depreciation to date</i> ...	830,670.06		908,033.81	
		2,178,693.85		2,171,271.18
Buildings under Construction:				
Sikh Temple ...	—	—	—	10,299.00
Gulistan Kotagiri (At Cost):				
As per last Balance Sheet ...	45,264.57		49,980.57	
Additions ...	4,716.00		—	
	49,980.57		49,980.57	
<i>Less: Depreciation to date</i> ...	12,086.03		13,335.53	
		37,894.54		36,645.04
Rose Windows-Kotagiri (At Cost): ...	30,000.00		30,000.00	
<i>Less: Depreciation to date</i> ...	2,250.00		3,000.00	
		27,750.00		27,000.00
Adyar Library Building ...	—		780,069.92	
<i>Less: Depreciation to date</i> ...	—		166,605.33	
				613,464.59
Movable Property at Adyar:				
Furniture & Fixtures: (At Cost)				
As per last Balance Sheet ...	212,406.98		218,029.63	
Additions ...	6,419.50		16,369.88	
	218,826.48		234,399.51	
<i>Less: Disposals</i> ...	796.85		400.00	
	218,029.63		233,999.51	
<i>Less: Transfers (to Maintenance Department)</i> ...	—		13,985.00	
	218,029.63		220,014.51	
<i>Less: Depreciation to date</i> ...	131,780.08		144,896.74	
		86,249.55		75,117.77
Motor Cars (At Cost)				
As per last Balance Sheet ...	131,100.27		131,100.27	
Additions ...	—		64,524.79	
	131,100.27		195,625.06	
<i>Less: Disposals</i> ...	—		30,220.20	
	131,100.27		165,404.86	
<i>Less: Depreciation to date</i> ...	87,171.27		102,817.67	
		43,929.00		62,587.19
C/o		2,577,485.43		3,204,023.86

FOR THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY
C. R. N. SWAMY,
Hony. Treasurer.

SOCIETY, ADYAR, AS AT 31st MARCH 1978 (Contd.)

ASSETS	PREVIOUS YEAR		Current Year	
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
B/f ...		2,577,485.43		3,204,023.86
Investments (At Cost)				
Government of India Loans ...	255,051.76		250,051.76	
State Government Loans ...	19,000.00		19,000.00	
Foreign Investments ...	345,073.25		345,073.25	
Miscellaneous Securities ...	176,314.69		345,224.69	
Fixed Deposits ...	3,204,400.00		2,848,400.00	
		3,999,839.70		3,807,749.70
Interest Accrued on Investments ...		83,823.30		70,351.60
Departmental Assets:				
(As valued and certified by the Management)				
Water Line Meter Installations ...	129.70		100.00	
Electrical Installations ...	53,699.04		52,714.92	
Telephone Installations ...	18,934.60		17,041.14	
Tools, Equipments, etc. ...	93,874.54		110,541.72	
Amounts Recoverable ...	23,580.96		23,936.96	
Standing Crops and Developments ...	11,285.96		18,886.15	
Stock on hand ...	160,006.07		151,149.49	
		361,510.87		374,370.38
Adyar Library Assets ...		1,120,845.05		496,216.35
T.P.H. Assets:				
Assets ...	983,757.98		1,107,402.08	
Investments ...	158,300.00		48,300.00	
Cash and Bank Balances ...	80,989.59		103,823.30	
		1,223,047.57		1,259,525.38
Vasanta Press Assets: ...		1,042,081.52		1,081,289.62
Sundry Assets ...		6,175.81		8,716.51
Loans and Advances ...		229,313.48		153,277.70
Outstanding Income:				
Subscriptions ...	2,956.36		2,956.36	
Fees and Dues ...	7,334.95		—	
		10,291.31		2,956.36
Security Deposit ...		1,650.00		2,060.00
Sundry Debtors:				
(Considered good by Management)		24,842.11		26,935.12
Prepaid Expenses ...		5,916.87		4,308.25
Cash:				
In Madras Banks on Current Account ...	71,041.79		60,569.41	
In London Bank on Current Account ...	11,469.25		11,656.37	
On hand ...	5,906.41		6,782.33	
		88,417.45		79,008.11
		10,775,240.47		10,570,788.94

Examined and found correct.

FOR N. A. NAGANATHAN & CO.,

Chartered Accountants.

N. ANANTHANARAYANAN (Partner)

ADYAR BESANT COMMEMORATIVE FUND INVESTMENTS

<i>No.</i>	<i>Particulars</i>	<i>Amount</i>
		Rs.
1.	3% Conversion Loan, 1946-1986	261,200
2.	4½% Tamil Nadu Land Development Bank, Debentures, 1970-80	15,000
3.	10% Bank of Baroda, Deposit	100,000
4.	10% Punjab National Bank, Deposit	150,000
5.	10% Indian Bank, Deposit	1,464,000
6.	10% Grindlays Bank, Deposit	100,000
7.	10% Bank of India, Deposit	50,000
8.	12 Years National Defence Certificates	5,000
9.	4% Canadian Pacific Railway Co. £ 3,000/-	45,000
10.	4½% Kenya Government Loan £ 500/-	7,500
Total ...		2,197,700

Note:

1. For further particulars please see Schedules under Investments.
2. The balance of Rs. 8,703 has been invested in Fixed Deposits after the close of the year.

FEES AND DUES RECEIVED DURING THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 1978

	1976-77	1977-78
	Rs.	Rs.
The Theosophical Society in Argentina	771.68	1,609.50
„ Australia	15,846.76	17 715.43
„ Austria	1,988.99	2,109.55
„ Belgium	2 571.36	4,288.60
„ Brazil	—	3 219.00
„ Bolivia	445.87	237.00
„ Canada	1 949.87	1,587.30
„ Central America	2,179.10	2 455.29
„ Chile	513.00	870.00
„ Colombia	277.74	510.45
„ Denmark	1,379.94	—
„ East & Central Africa	1,299.66	—
„ England	2,131.56	7 141.76
„ Finland		2,807.23
„ France	8,584.30	8,251.79
„ Germany	—	4,182.69
„ Iceland	1,648.30	2,324.47
„ India	12,201.65	4,430.40
„ Ireland	—	22.28
„ Indonesia	204.00	491.23
„ Italy	—	4,289.14
„ Mexico	1,780.20	1 938.72
„ Netherlands	—	10,911.45
„ New Zealand	2,232.93	—
„ Northern Ireland	17.50	—
„ Norway	211.38	383.33
„ Philippines	1,306.33	—
„ Portugal	500.50	441.00
„ Puerto Rico	—	395.40
„ Scotland	150.00	—
„ Uruguay	773.98	—
„ U. S. A.	47,107.60	44,763.50
„ Venezuela	—	321.40
„ Wales	329.84	521.56
„ West Africa	—	750.00
„ Yugoslavia	681.35	869.56
Canadian Federation	560.01	521.66
Lodges Attached to Adya	1,508.66	1,976.81
Fellows-at-Large	2,041.58	3,193.10
Total	<u>113,195.64</u>	<u>135,530.60</u>

REVISÉD BUDGET FOR 1978-79 AND BUDGET FOR 1979-80

EXPENDITURE	Actuals for 77-78	Revised Budget for 78-79	Budget for 79-80	INCOME	Actuals for 77-78	Revised Budget for 78-79	Budget for 79-80
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Special Departments:				Special Departments:			
Adyar Library ...	127,719	104,100	105,000	Adyar Library ...	34,456	23,500	23,500
Adyar Newsletter ...	8,246	9,600	9,600	Adyar Newsletter ...	8,957	11,000	11,000
Bhojanasala ...	89,250	88,535	91,110	Bhojanasala ...	88,363	83,780	84,100
Consumer Stores ...	140,169	151,000	162,000	Consumer Stores ...	141,149	151,000	162,000
Garden Department ...	129,476	113,518	112,702	Garden Department ...	91,432	66,756	83,750
Laundry Department ...	7,091	—	—	Leadbeater Chambers ...	129,931	114,600	122,000
Leadbeater Chambers ...	128,231	114,480	121,000	Maintenance Department... ..	157,797	127,450	128,650
Maintenance Dept. ...	330,279	265,690	281,850	Theosophical Publishing House ...	312,841	281,800	301,800
Theosophical Pub- lishing House ...	234,205	238,540	242,890	The Theosophist ...	109,383	112,000	106,000
The Theosophist ...	122,491	129,600	133,800	Vasanta Press ...	223,425	672,000	710,000
Vasanta Press ...	219,986	671,470	709,720	Donations ...	10,383	10,000	10,000
Bad Debts ...	6	1,000	500	Fees and Dues ...	135,530	120,000	120,000
Child Welfare Centre ...	6,961	7,000	7,000	Interest (Gross) ...	322,404	305,000	305,000
Convention ...	22,705	20,000	20,000	Quarters Maintenance ...	80,879	80,000	80,000
Depreciation ...	127,932	130,000	130,000	Sale of Motor Cars ...	12,230	10,000	—
Deposit Linked—Insurance ...	4,039	4,000	4,000	Scrap Sales ...	7,001	5,000	5,000
Dispensary ...	15,292	16,000	17,000	Overhead Charges ...	16,959	18,000	18,000
Estate Management ...	14,607	15,000	16,000	Excess of Expenditure over Income ...	287,890	338,947	352,772
Fire Insurance ...	1,899	2,000	2,000	Add; Deficit on 'The Theosophist' taken direct to T. P. H. Balance Sheet ...	13,108	17,600	27,800
Gratuity Allocation ...	9,251	5,000	5,000				
Headquarters Department ...	18,186	18,000	19,000				
Information and Public Relations Department ...	10,232	19,000	19,000				
Insurance Fund Administration ...	746	700	700				
International Offices— General ...	80,148	84,000	85,000				
Interest on Funds and Accounts ...	5,242	5,000	5,000				
International Centre of Theosophical Studies and Research ...	2,728	10,000	10,000				
Kotagiri Property Maintenance ...	8,670	8,000	8,000				
Legal and Audit Expenses ...	6,135	6,000	6,000				
Miscellaneous ...	8,201	8,000	8,000				
Movable Properties Dept. ...	37,763	37,000	38,000				
Museum and Archives ...	22,146	20,000	25,000				
Postage, Telegrams and Telephones ...	18,128	18,000	18,000				
Printing and Stationery ...	17,930	18,000	18,000				
Provident Fund Administration ...	5,585	3,000	3,000				
Publications to General Secretaries ...	1,817	2,200	2,500				
Retirement Allowances ...	20,940	26,000	26,000				
Sanitary Department ...	23,364	27,000	27,000				
Security Department ...	115,674	110,000	120,000				
Taxes ...	38,674	40,000	40,000				
Travelling & Conveyance ...	1,974	2,000	2,000				
	2,184,118	2,548,433	2,651,372		2,184,118	2,548,433	2,651,372

T
060
GRTS
1978

59D

